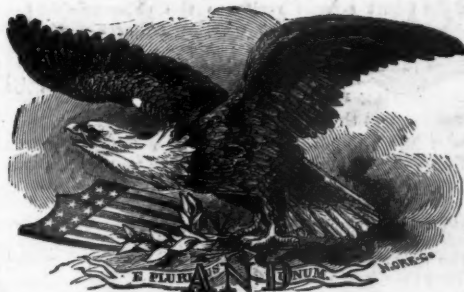


ARMY



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GRANT.

WHEN the great war closed triumphantly, in early summer of 1865, one sentiment toward the Army pervaded the country—a sentiment of enthusiastic gratitude and admiration. No words were then too extravagant for the brave men who, through the long and bitter struggle, had remained faithful to the end, and the guerdon of whose toils and sacrifices was a redeemed nation. But a political contest came on; and with a strange forgetfulness of their own recent praises, some of those same journals and public men who had been loudest in eulogy of the soldier, now fancied it to be for their party interest to decry him, to belittle his deeds and insult his cause. What used to be called "loyalty" they now sneeringly spelled "loylty;" when a crime was committed, they asked if it was not done by some "Boy in Blue;" they had only words of excuse for Confederate violations of the laws of war, and only words of misrepresentation for the conduct of our own officers.

Finally, it happened that General GRANT, the leader of the Union armies, was nominated by a great political party for the Presidency. At once, instead of opposing that officer on the ground of the political doctrines whose representative he had become, these journalists and public men set upon his personal and military character. But the reaction was very prompt. A man to whom party is more than country, can easily bring himself to the task of blackening the character of his country's most signal defenders; but the people, who had not yet forgotten what they owed to GRANT and to the men whom GRANT led, were offended at this conduct. It was an audacious enterprise, and it has recoiled against its undertakers.

The onslaught upon the national renown and the private character of General GRANT at once brought to his service all of his friends. The people have learned something which, if never brought to notice before, is now put beyond question—namely, that those who most intimately know General GRANT, and who are best qualified to judge, are those who have the profoundest respect for his character as a soldier and a man. As his own incomparable magnanimity toward friend and foe shines the more lustrous in contrast with the petty arts of detraction, so does the influence of his distinguished friends and endorsers become more impressive by contrast with the ignorant and ignoble scribbles who abuse him. Take, for example, the letter of General SCHOFIELD, who is by nature conservative, and who has been the special subject of praise from those who attack General GRANT—can anything be more convincing than the grounds on which he addresses this officer? And what SCHOFIELD thinks, SHERMAN, SHERIDAN, MEADE, THOMAS and a host of brother-officers, think and say. Their testimonials to GRANT's political views are

another matter—but the great point is that they, from personal and intimate relations with him, bear public witness to his splendid qualities as a man.

Nor is this all. The leading political opponents of General GRANT, the men of most character, have hastened to give their testimony, too, to his personal and military worth. In what a sorry plight are his early vilifiers now, when the very men whom they counted on following them in this dirty work of detraction, have repudiated and denounced them! General BLAIR has taken special pains to speak publicly of the high respect that he entertains for General GRANT's private and soldierly character, and to declare that he opposes him solely on political grounds. General McCLELLAN, in his first public letter, says of him: "Separated as I thus am from the distinguished soldier who has been chosen as the leader of our opponents, I know that you will agree with me in the highest respect for the services he has rendered our country." Mr. PENDLETON has especially denounced those who make war on General GRANT's personal character, or strive to dim his fame or belittle his achievements. Mr. J. Q. ADAMS, the Democratic candidate for Governor in Massachusetts, in a public speech lately said:

I have seen General GRANT stigmatized as a bad general, an incompetent man, and a confirmed drunkard. I have not the honor of his acquaintance, but when I am told he is no soldier, I can only say "Donelson;" when you say he is a dolt, my heart responds, "Vicksburg;" and when I hear of his intemperance, I can only quote Mr. Lincoln, and wish he had had more generals in the war who knew his tittle. No, gentlemen, he finished the war, and that is enough to entitle him to my respect and admiration.

And the Democratic Convention in that State, struck with the meanness of the calumnies already uttered by unscrupulous journalists, "deprecated," in a formal resolution, that sort of warfare, declaring it only disastrous to those who essayed it.

If these and the other distinguished men, political foes as well as friends of General GRANT, take this ground, what shall we say of those who deal only in aspersion and slander? Which of the two sets of men is right? If the latter are indeed slanderers, what shall be the public judgment upon their base endeavors to filch away a good name?

For, it must be remembered, that it is not alone General GRANT who suffers in this underhand warfare. With his fame is interlinked that of all his brave "Boys in Blue," who followed him over many fields, and with him suffered and triumphed. To continually represent the valor of the enemy as so extraordinary, our obstacles to victory as so slight, our numbers so overwhelming, and the like, is a work as unpatriotic as it is ungrateful to the memory of the dead and the merits of the living defenders of the country.

It is uphill work for those who are trying to prove General GRANT "a drunkard and a dolt." So was it uphill work for the wiseacres who undertook to prove that WELLINGTON was no soldier. The stubborn words Donelson, Vicksburg, Chattanooga, Petersburg, Richmond, Appomattox, keep coming to the surface of the discussion, and while his opponents are ciphering their slates full of figures, the listless auditors hear, out of the distance of years, the roll of the drums and the peal of the bells, and see, in fancy, the waving of the banners that told of GRANT's great victories. They find in GRANT only a wooden man. Wooden men do not do what GRANT has done. Whenever

anything in history has been done like what GRANT has done, or approaching to it, it was done by no wooden man. Review the world's military history, select whatever examples you please of achievements at all resembling GRANT's—then name the hero, that we may see what it is to be a "wooden" man.

BREVET Brigadier-General WILLIAM GATES, the oldest living graduate of the Military Academy, after a life-long service in the Army, died on Wednesday, in the city of New York.

General GATES was born in Massachusetts during the last quarter of the last century, when the United States were emerging from a colonial into a distinct national existence. He came of a military stock, his father, who died in 1806, just as his son was receiving his commission as second-lieutenant, being Captain LEMUEL GATES, of the regiment of artilleryists and engineers. WILLIAM GATES was a member of the class of the Academy which was graduated in 1806, having entered the institution in its earliest infancy. After graduation, he was assigned to the artilleryists, and served with them through the war of 1812-'15, attaining the grade of captain. Upon the reorganization of the Army, in 1821, he was made captain of the Second Artillery, and major by brevet. At the time when South Carolina's threatened "nullification," was promptly checked by General JACKSON, and incipient rebellion rudely stifled, he was one of the officers stationed in Charleston harbor. The personal and soldierly conduct of our officers in and about Charleston during that trying time has often received merited praise. General SCOTT alludes to it in high terms in his autobiography, as he himself proceeded thither *incognito* to assume command. A review of the circumstances of nullification always and remarkably recalls the early scenes in the same Charleston harbor in the winter of 1860-'61, when General JACKSON was not President. Colonel GATES survived to see nullification, under the form of secession, successful; but only to be finally crushed out forever. After his Charleston experience, he served in the Indian wars, and was stationed at different forts in the South. During the war with Mexico, he acted as governor of Tampico.

It was just previous to the opening of that war that he received his commission as Colonel of the Third Artillery. Colonel GATES was at Fort Adams, R. I., from 1848 to 1853, and in December of the latter year, while on his way to California, was wrecked in the steamer *San Francisco*, and obliged to return to New York. In 1863, he was placed on the retired list, "having been borne on the Army Register more than forty-five years." From 1863 to 1867, he was stationed at Fort Trumbull, Conn., and Fort Constitution, N. H. On the 13th of March, 1865, when brevets were freely flying about, the claims of the old soldier were remembered, and Colonel GATES was made brevet brigadier-general "for long and faithful services in the Army."

The record of this long life calls up the entire history of the Army, one of the first officers of which Colonel GATES was. It calls up also the whole history of the Republic, whose birth and his own were coincident. And the old soldier dies now when the Nation is in the throes of its regeneration.

THE ARMY.

FIRST Lieutenant Charles Harkins, Second Infantry, has recently been tried before a General Court-martial on the following charges: 1st. Embezzling money belonging to the United States Government. 2d. Signing false certificates, knowing the same to be false, for the purpose of defrauding the United States Government; and defrauding said government. 3d. Conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline. 4th. Conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. The Court found the accused guilty of the second charge and not guilty of the others, and sentenced him to be placed in arrest at the station of his company for the period of three months, and to be deprived of rank and pay during the same period. Major-General Thomas, commanding the Department of the Cumberland, makes the following remarks on the case:

In the case of First Lieutenant Charles Harkins, Second Infantry, the proceedings and findings are approved. The sentence is confirmed and will be carried into effect.

The circumstances developed by this case should prove to those officers of the Army who are entrusted with the disbursement of public money, that they cannot confine themselves too closely to the laws and regulations laid down for their guidance, any departure from which is certain to bring trouble officially as well as personally.

FIRST Lieutenant James K. Warden, adjutant Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry, has been tried before a General Court-martial for positive and wilful disobedience of orders. The specification under this charge sets forth that the accused failed to obey an order of his commanding officer, directing him to vacate a set of quarters occupied by him, which had been assigned to another officer, and that Lieutenant Warden returned the order to Headquarters Post of Nashville, with the following endorsement:

HEADQUARTERS FORTY-FIFTH INFANTRY, ASH BARRACKS, NASHVILLE, TENN., JUNE 28, 1868.
Respectfully returned to Brevet Captain Wm. W. Rodgers, first lieutenant Forty-fifth Infantry, post adjutant. There was no doubt in my mind as to the instructions contained in the letter of the 25th inst., referred to within, viz.: "that it was an order for me to vacate the quarters I now occupy," but there was a doubt as to the legality of said order, and that doubt still exists, and with the utmost respect I decline to obey said order until the doubt is entertained shall have been removed by higher authority, to which I have appealed.

The Court found the accused guilty of the charge preferred against him and sentenced him "to be placed at the foot of the first lieutenants in his regiment, to be suspended from rank and command for three months, and confined during that period at the headquarters of his regiment." Major-General Thomas, commanding the Department of the Cumberland, makes the following remarks on the case:

In the case of First Lieutenant James K. Warden, Forty-fifth U. S. Infantry, the proceedings and findings are approved. On account of the excellent character as an officer borne by the accused, as established in the record, and believing that Lieutenant Warden has been led into this serious violation of discipline by a misconceived idea of what are his rights, the major-general commanding is pleased to remit that portion of the sentence which reads "to be placed at the foot of the first lieutenants in his regiment." The remainder of the sentence is confirmed and will be carried into effect by the commanding officer of the Forty-fifth Infantry.

BREVET Major-General Rousseau, commanding the Department of Louisiana, makes the following remarks upon the proceedings of a General Court-martial, which convened at Baton Rouge, La.:

The proceedings in the case of Sergeant Charles Deugas, Company G, First Infantry, are disapproved. The officer who preferred the charges was a member of the Court, and at the proper time was, for that reason, objected to by the accused. The Court overruled the objection, and the record does not show that the challenged member stated that he had no knowledge of the facts of the case, or that he had signed the charges by the direction of his superior officer. Had there been a sentence this proceeding would have been fatal to its validity. "One who signs the charges is *prima facie* an accuser, and may be rejected as a member of the Court, on challenge. But when the officer who subscribed the charges, stated to the Court that he had no knowledge of the facts of the case, and that his name had been appended by the order of his superior officer, held that his being allowed to sit as a member, though objected to, did not affect the validity of the proceedings." (Digest of the opinions of the judge-advocate-general, page 31.) The findings and acquittal are approved. The accused will be released from arrest and restored to duty.

BREVET Major-General McDowell, commanding Department of the East, in a recent order promulgating the proceedings of a General Court-martial, make the following remarks:

In approving the action of the Court, in throwing out, before arraignment, so much of the original specification as states a long list of military offences committed by the prisoner during a period of nearly a year prior to his desertion, and for which he has already been punished, the department commander takes the occasion to say in reference to this case, in connection with that of Private Harrigan, U. S. Ordnance, promulgated in General Orders No. 33, current series, from these headquarters, that it is competent for a court to take into consideration the fact that the prisoner is on trial for repetition of the same offence, which repetition constitutes an aggravated case. But it is not just, that in trying one

crime, the Court should recite to the prisoner's detriment that he has been guilty of other offences of a different character, for which he has been punished, and for which the punishment may have been effectual.

THE following news regarding Indian troubles has been received at the War Department:

Brevet Major-General Merritt, Ninth Cavalry, commanding at Fort Davis, Texas, under date of September 15th, reports that Lieutenant Cusack, of the Ninth Cavalry, who had been sent from Fort Davis with a detachment of sixty men from Companies C, F, and K, of his regiment, and a volunteer party of Mexicans, to recapture the stock recently stolen by Indians from a train near Fort Stockton, overtook the Indians (Apaches), two hundred strong, about eighty miles east of Fort Davis, attacked them, and killed in a running fight, extending over five miles, between twenty and thirty of them, and wounded at least as many more, and took from them all their stock, over two hundred head of horses and mules, besides a few cattle; destroyed the entire camp, including their winter store of meats, berries, etc., and recaptured two Mexican boys who had been in captivity four or five years. The loss to Lieutenant Cusack's command was two soldiers—severely, though not dangerously wounded, and two horses. Some Government stock was stolen from Fort Lancaster and other points by the Indians. Among that captured is some of the mail stock lost a short time ago at the Nuveste: a large quantity of skins, robes, and other booty was taken. Lieutenant Cusack marched almost the entire distance by night, lying by in the day, to surprise the Indians, which he did. He speaks highly of the good conduct of his men, and makes especial mention of Company C, Ninth Cavalry, for conspicuous gallantry during the fight. The Indians were Apaches and Sipsans, under Arsarto, which has the reputation of being a desperate fellow, and never at peace, either in Texas or Mexico. General Hazen writes from Fort Larned that the Kiowas and Comanches who were on the Arkansas River, have, without doubt, joined the Cheyennes and Arapahoes in the war. Superintendent Murphy is at Council Grove.

BREVET Major-General Rousseau, commanding Department of Louisiana, in a recent order, makes the following remarks upon the proceedings of a General Court-martial, which convened in his Department:

In the cases of Sergeant Eckbert Grone, Company E, and Corporal Dennis M. Carroll, Company A, Nineteenth Infantry, the sentences are "to be reduced to the ranks as a private sentinel." The absurdity of such a sentence is apparent without comment. It is presumed that it was the intention of the Court that the accused should be reduced to the grade of private, and it should have been so expressed. The proceedings are set aside. Officers who review the proceedings of garrison and regimental courts should perform that duty with the most scrupulous care. However merited the punishment contemplated by the Court, if the requirements of the law are not complied with on the trial, or in recording the proceedings, the sentences cannot be lawfully executed. If fatal irregularities are overlooked by the reviewing authority, as has been done in these cases, and the sentences confirmed, the execution of the same will have commenced, and in some instances been completed, before the records can reach the department commander, and the proceedings be by him set aside.

LETTER FROM LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SHERMAN.

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL Sherman sent the following letter to General H. A. Barnum, in reply to an invitation to attend the meeting of the "Boys in Blue," at Philadelphia:

DEAR GENERAL: I have just received your letter of September 8th, inviting me to attend a mass convention of the war veterans at Philadelphia on the 1st and 2d of October next, in the interest of the Republican party in the present canvass. It will be impossible for me to do so for many reasons, and I know no one to whom I can impart them better than to you. First, I have too much to do in my proper legitimate business, which keeps me west of the Mississippi; secondly, I am required by a summons to attend a called meeting of the Indian Peace Commission, at Chicago, on the 7th of October; thirdly, I have made up my mind to keep out of political assemblages, conventions, and controversies altogether, because, in my judgment, an officer of the Army, sworn to obey the laws, and serve every administration, has no business to become a partisan. No one, I trust, doubts my respect for, and absolute confidence in General Grant—at least he himself does not; and I extract for your information from a letter from the General, dated Washington, June 21, 1868:

DEAR SHERMAN: Your kind letter, written from New Mexico, is received. You understand my position exactly. . . . I feel very gratified to the officers of our Army, whose military achievements made my reputation as well as their own, to know that they support me in this new field. I do not expect or want active support, but merely the satisfaction of knowing what your letter assures me of on your part. Officers who expect to make the Army their home for life have to serve under successive administrations, and should not make themselves obnoxious to any party likely to come into power. . . .

This covers the whole ground, and will, I feel assured, prove perfectly satisfactory to you. With great respect, your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN, Lieutenant-General.

A VAGUE and erroneous opinion prevails in regard to the climate of Sitka. The records kept at that place by Assistant Surgeon Hoff, U. S. Army, show that the number of rainy days has averaged 11 per month since November 1, 1867, and that the average daily mean of the temperature during the coldest month of the winter was 29 degrees, while during the hottest month of the year it has not averaged 60.

ARMY ORGANIZATION.

THE following is the concluding portion of the article on Army Organization by Brigadier-General Israel Vogdes, extracts from which have already appeared in these columns, and which, it will be remembered, was written the latter part of 1864:

The great length of this article will preclude us from more than touching upon some of the other points which we deem as improvements upon our system. First. Advantage may be taken of the present reduced state of the regiments to consolidate them by States into regiments consisting of the service and the depot battalion. Let the generals commanding the several departments, or armies in the field, order boards, in every instance commissioned officers nowise affected by the cases they have to consider, to determine the merits of the officers in their several grades, and let the officers retained be such as are thus determined; the surplus officers to be discharged. Let the several States be districted, so that each district shall be required to recruit for a regiment. Let the quota of each district be such as at present, and when volunteers are not forthcoming, draft the full complement of men. The depot for the regiment should be established within the district, and disabled men and officers who are now allowed furloughs should be sent there to be nursed, or do such duty as they are able to perform. The recruits assembled here can be instructed, and when sufficiently advanced forwarded to the regiments.

Second. Make the position of the officer honorable and desirable—do away with the system of arbitrary dismissals, secure competency by rigid examinations, taking into consideration the service of the individual. Let the promotions be made in part by seniority, and in part from lists prepared by boards of examination—these boards, in all cases, composed of officers of grades superior to those which form the lists. No private should be made a non-commissioned officer until he has passed an examination for appointment. In every case require the individual to serve three months in active service, or six months in garrison, before he can be presented for examination. The non-commissioned officers and privates may be presented for examination as second lieutenants by a board appointed by the colonel, composed of one captain and two first lieutenants, after they shall have served at least three months in the field or six in garrison, the appointments to be made in accordance with the lists so determined, provided also that any private or non-commissioned officer who may be mentioned in orders by the general commanding the brigade, may be appointed a second lieutenant without examination. In order to prepare lists for promotion to first lieutenants, let the board be composed of a major and two captains, one or more of which should be of a different regiment. All of the second lieutenants may compete before this board. In making these promotions, two should be made by seniority, and one in accordance with the list prepared by the board—the proceedings of the board to be approved by the officer ordering it, or his successor. For the grade of captain, the board to be appointed by the division commander, and composed of field officers npt. of the same regiment as the candidates; one-half of the promotions by seniority, one-half in order of merit, as determined by the board—the promotions to be made by regiments. For the grade of field officers, the board should be composed of general officers, and all the promotions be made by States, and in accordance with its decisions—its proceedings to be approved by the corps commander. Brigadier-generals to be selected from the colonels or staff, after due examination, by the President. Rules should be established for the examination for the several grades; the subjects upon which the candidates should be examined should increase in number and difficulty according to the rank. Thus, for promotion to second lieutenant, reading, writing, arithmetic, and knowledge of tactics, to include the school of the company. For first lieutenant, the school of the battalion, the Articles of War, and the Army Regulations, together with outpost duty and American history. For captains, the following subjects: Field fortifications, tactics, military administration, military law, outlines of military history. These are to be understood as simply indicating the scope of the examination. No one should be appointed a general without having seen field service, and being thoroughly conversant with the art of war in all its branches. Having secured the respectability of the officer, pay him amply, but not extravagantly. The present pay, owing to the great advance of the necessities of life, is absurdly low; while the salaries in all other professions have more than doubled, the pay of the officer remains what it was previous to the war. Any one competent to hold the position of an officer can obtain double the amount of salary in civil life which he receives in the Army.

We will not detain our readers by attempting to unfold a plan for the organization of the two other important branches of the service—cavalry and artillery. It is sufficient to remark that the leading principles which have been indicated above will, with some slight and obvious modifications, be applicable to them. The object of all military organizations should be to unite solidity and mobility in the mass, knowledge and a high sense of honor in the chiefs, honesty and competency in the administration. Two things should always be held in view by the Government: First. To advance real merit whenever it may be found, and, second, to reward long and faithful services. These were the guiding principles of the great masters of the art in modern times—Frederick and Napoleon. They never cheapened their favors by bestowing them hastily or for inadequate services. Never degrade your honors by bestowing them upon mere political partisans or court favorites. Above all, the authorities should not destroy their value in the eyes of the recipients by hasty dismissals or degrading punishments. The Catholic Church, during its ascendancy, in the middle ages, never administered capital or degrading punishments upon its priests. The priest found guilty by his peers was first deprived of his

holy office before being turned over to the secular arm for punishment. The officer should never be arraigned before a court-martial for other than purely military offences. If accused of corruption, or a violation of the criminal law, he should in time of peace be handed over to the civil authorities, and in time of war be tried by a military commission. In all cases previous to being punished he should be deprived of his military appointments.

We shall not at present enter upon a discussion of the organization of the staff departments of our Army. The few remarks we have to make will necessarily be of the most general nature. In our service the staff includes the engineer, ordnance, adjutant-general, the quartermaster, commissary, medical and pay departments. Their respective duties are indicated by their several names. Having bureaus at Washington, they have not lacked legislation for their organization, but it is to be regretted that they have generally looked only to the advantages accruing to their several corps, and overlooked the line for which they exist; who, being engaged in active duties in the field, have generally seen their interests as well as those of the service subordinated to the petty interests of the bureaus at Washington. These departments have generally been efficiently, if not economically managed during the war. The transportation, military supplies, and the commissary in our Army are equal, if not superior, to any in the world. The medical attendance, the organization of the hospitals, is far ahead of that of any other army. Those that have seen the miserable arrangements of the Rebel hospitals, their cruel neglect of their sick and wounded, and contrast them with the comfortable and even luxurious arrangements of our establishments, have reason to thank God that he has cast their lot among a civilized and humane people, instead of among the semi-barbarians of the South. In one branch—that of the general staff—we are almost entirely deficient. Our Adjutant-General's Department ill supplies its place. Those having anything to do either with the movement or government of our Armies feel its want deeply. The staff is the brain of the army. To discharge its duties, long and special instruction is required. None but thoroughly educated officers should ever be admitted into its ranks, and even these, before entering upon their duties, should be subjected to a rigid examination. An army commanded by a general of character, even if he lacks knowledge, may, if he has an able chief of staff, achieve great things. Much of the reputation of the "bravest of the brave," the impetuous Ney, depended on his energetic arm being guided by the skill of his chief of staff, Jomini. Blucher was only a dashing cavalry officer, utterly incapable of governing or putting in motion an army of 50,000 men. Even the great Napoleon, whom Jomini says was his own chief of staff, deeply felt the want of his life-long military companion, Berthier, during his last campaign. It is, perhaps, not asserting too much to say that if had been at his side to interpret and to transmit his orders to his subordinates, Waterloo would have had a different result, and the world's history been different from what it is.

THE OLD TOOLS PURCHASE.

CHARGES having been for some time made in Washington against the Engineering Department of the Philadelphia Navy-yard, a resolution was introduced in Congress during the last session, by General Halbert E. Paine, of Wisconsin, instructing the House Committee on Naval Affairs to investigate the administration of that bureau. Hon. Wm. D. Kelley, of Philadelphia, Hon. Thomas W. Ferry, of Michigan, and Hon. Aaron F. Stevens, of New Hampshire, were appointed a sub-committee to take charge of the matter, and have finished their labors and submitted the report we publish herewith:

The report of Judge Kelley, chairman of the sub-committee, is as follows:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 28, 1868.

Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy.

DEAR SIR: In compliance with your suggestion at the close of the conference between you, my colleague on the investigating committee, General Stevens, and myself, this morning, I beg leave to bring to your attention one or two points for official investigation.

You have in possession of the department, I believe, a copy of the paper to which I invited your attention, headed, "List of tools and machinery contracted for by the Etna Iron Works, New York, John Roach & Sons, proprietors, showing the prices at which the contract was awarded, and the bids of other manufacturers for tools, etc., of the same kind, and of the same or nearly the same capacity."

This paper, as appeared in the course of our investigation, was also submitted to the Board of Engineers ordered to report to the department on the propriety and economy of the purchase of so large a number of second-hand tools. The fact to which I invite your attention is, that it does not present the prices of the two firms of established tool makers, whose names stand at the head of its comparative columns, but is false and exaggerated, as you will learn by inquiry from Bement & Dougherty, and William Sellers & Co., both of Philadelphia, whose names stand at the head of the columns. The paper justifies the reader in supposing that bids for the tools in question were solicited, or had from these firms, which is not the case, no application having been made to either firm at or about the time of the purchase of the second-hand tools specified in that list, or the several contracts with John Roach & Sons, of June 28th, and September 23, 1867, and January 6th, and February 27, 1868. The last list of prices of such articles obtained from these firms were respectively of the dates of 24th and 30th of August, 1866. In the month of May following, and preceding the purchase of these second-hand tools, and of any of the contracts with Messrs. Roach & Sons, both of these firms published price-lists showing a reduction of more than ten per cent. on their prices of 1866, yet it appears from copies of these list of prices furnished in August, 1866, that the prices said, in this

comparative table, to have been asked by them in 1867, are actually greater than those presented in the list of 1866, to which I have referred.

You will bear in mind, if you please, that referring only to the comparative statement under the official stamp of the Department of Steam Engineering for the Philadelphia Navy-yard, and to copies of the August, 1866, lists of prices of these gentlemen under the same official stamp, and furnished us by the department, we showed you, in the instance of a planing machine, that Bement & Dougherty were reported in the comparative list to have asked \$8,400 for a 66-inch planing machine, while in 1866 they had asked but \$7,000 for a 72-inch planing machine, weighing nearly ten thousand pounds more than the old planing machine bought from Messrs. Roach; and that we also invited your attention to the fact that in the matter of 15-ton cranes, which are contracted for with Messrs. Roach at \$1,750 per crane, they are reported as having made no bid, while in the official copy furnished us of Bement & Dougherty's lists of 1866, it appears they offered them for \$1,500 apiece. In a letter from William Sellers & Co., referring to this comparative statement, they say:

"Mr. Goldstein, the draftsman attached to the engineer's office in the Philadelphia Navy-yard, called upon us some time previous to the date of contract with Messrs. Roach & Sons, to obtain prices for various tools, all of which we gave him. We presume his visit must have been prior to May 21, 1867, as at that time we issued a new price list, which was considerably lower than the prices ruling prior to that date. Prices previous to this reduction more nearly correspond to those on the list you have forwarded, but the prices in the list do not correspond to any of ours, being higher."

In closing their letter, they add:

"We notice discrepancies in size which are not accounted for in the remarks accompanying the comparative statement. Some of the sizes given as ours, we do not make."

As appears by the copy of Mr. Sellers's list of prices furnished us under the seal of the department, it was forwarded on the 30th of August, 1866, six days subsequent to the response of Messrs. Bement & Dougherty.

As the report of the engineers authorized to examine this machinery and report upon the economy of the purchase is based, as the investigating committee were informed by Messrs. Woods & Henderson, upon this fraudulent statement, my suggestion is that you take measures to test the accuracy of these allegations and relieve the service of the party in fault, whether it be a crafty subordinate or an incompetent chief of so important a department.

The committee are unable to submit to you, at this time, all the testimony, as the phonographer employed has not yet been able to write it out; but I may say its members are satisfied, beyond doubt, that prices were paid for the second-hand tools of Messrs. Roach & Sons greater than would have been demanded for such tools new, and in the proportions suggested by most recent experience, from either of the firms who stand unquestioned at the head of toolmakers, and that of the fifty odd thousand dollars worth yet to be delivered by John Roach & Sons, who are now engaged in the business of toolmaking, most of the tools could have been obtained at lower prices from Bement & Dougherty and Sellers & Co., the established firms alluded to. Should you desire to examine the testimony taken by the committee, I will transmit it to you as I receive it from the phonographer.

Whatever apology there may be for an indiscreet purchase of worn-out tools, as a mere error of judgment, it does not cover the fabrication of false tables and elaborate calculations producing false results, and the submission of them to superior officers of the Government of the country inquiring into official transactions; and I earnestly but respectfully suggest that you direct such an investigation of this matter as may bring the offender to light, as he has control of the official seal or stamp of the Department of Steam Engineering of the Philadelphia Navy-yard. Yours, very truly,

(Signed) WILLIAM D. KELLEY.

TO MY MARE KATE.

(SEEN IN STRANGE HANDS AFTER THE WAR,
BY AN EX-STAFF-OFFICER.

WHAT have they done to thee, my darling!
What have they done to thee, my pride?
How dare they drag thy gallant spirit down,
And harass thee from morn till even-tide!

My pet! who hast so proudly trodden
O'er many a ghastly battle-field—
So fearless 'mid shot, and shell and carnage!
My peerless Kate! how could thy mettle yield!

Dost thou forget the rain of bullets—
The fight!—now here—now there—now yon!—
The scream of shell through all the weary air—
Thy master's touch, that urged thee proudly on!

Hast thou forgotten, Kate, thy master,
Now that our fighting days are done?
And hearest thou no more the wild war-music—
The calling bugle and the answering drum?

Ah, Kate! how canst thou fag in furrow,
Or carry hum-drum corn to mill!
How toil a dumb patient beast of burden,
Heeding a clownish, stupid, plough-boy's will!

How canst lay by thy well-earned laurels—
Toiling thy pride and strength away;
Thy old-time master grieves to see thee flag,
And sighs that thou shouldst see this humble day.

"Come, Kate!"—Ah! no—you've not forgotten!
Poor beauty! see—the old light in your eye!
You toss your tired head—the same old toss—
But ah! you drop again: Poor Kate!—Good by!

MILITIA IN THE INDIAN WARS.

THE Canadian Volunteer Review, in a series of articles on "The Campaigns of 1754-'64," has the following reference to our earlier days of border warfare:

The conduct of the Indian traders and backwoods settlers has been already adverted to, but during this dangerous period they succeeded, by their turbulent villainy, in casting all their former bad deeds into the shade. Virginia formed an honorable exception; ever ready to provide means of defence, her militia had gradually acquired habits of discipline and control which made them formidable in the field; and any effectual help rendered in defence of the frontiers came from that province. Pennsylvania, governed by a Quaker assembly, upon those Utopian theoretic principles characteristic of that sect, allowed her frontier settlers to be slaughtered without mercy, and would take no precautions for their safety. Professing to appeal to human reason as the guide of man's actions, they left him without the restraints of human law; and the usual consequences followed—a more villainous, disorderly, turbulent, or disgraceful set never afflicted any community than the Pennsylvania frontiersmen. It has been seen how they refused to assist Bouquet; their subsequent conduct was such as to lessen any sympathy which their merited misfortunes might have excited. Though Pennsylvania was acquired by treaty, the Quaker proprietors had no objection to its extension by force or fraud, provided it did not entail expenditure of money. Encouraging all the sectaries and fanatics of Europe to settle within its limits, it gave the locations on the borders without any restraining law forbidding trespass on Indian soil. What happened could have been easily foreseen. The lands of the aborigines were absorbed piece by piece. Neither law nor justice could be obtained as against the aggressors, the savages undertook to right themselves and vindicate their undoubted claims to the land off which they had been driven by force; hence the frontiers of the Quaker State suffered more severely and deservedly than any other.

Virginia had provided forts and block-houses along her frontier, and to those her settlers repaired on the appearance of danger. Having places of security, they could devise modes of aggression; and on this occasion 1,000 men were put under arms, divided into two battalions, who rendered good service during the war. No such precautions were taken in Pennsylvania. When danger threatened, the frontier settlers were thrown back on the older settlements, entirely destitute, adding to the people's burdens and unwelcome guests. Repeated remonstrances having failed to awaken the assembly of that province to the sufferings of the people, a few of the more daring and desperate banded themselves together, and turned their arms, not against the common foe, but a band of Indians converted by the Moravians, who were ruthlessly murdered because they would offer no resistance. Another party was put into Lancaster jail for safety. The ruffians forced this asylum in open daylight, and murdered its inmates. The impunity with which those deeds were allowed to be perpetrated encouraged them still further, and they actually attempted to march into Philadelphia; but this was too much for the Quakers of the City of Brotherly Love, and they speedily organized an armed force so formidable from its numbers, as to strike terror into the cowardly hounds who threatened to assail them.

Early in July Governor Hamilton had called the Assembly together, and, representing the miseries of the unprotected frontiers, counselled that measures should be taken to remedy the existing evils and prevent their recurrence. Very reluctantly they recognized the necessity for defensive measures by passing a bill for raising, and equipping a force of 700 men, to be composed only of frontier farmers, and to be kept in pay during the time of harvest. They were not to leave the settled parts of the country to engage in too offensive operations of any kind, or even perform garrison duty, their sole object being to enable the people to gather in their crops unmolested. They were divided into small parties, to be stationed at farm-houses and hamlets on both sides of the Susquehanna. The two companies assigned to Lancaster county were placed under the command of a clergyman, Mr. John Elden, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Paxton, a worthy son of the Church Militant, who seems to have discharged his military duty with zeal and judgment.

In 1755 the Assembly of Pennsylvania passed one of the most extraordinary Militia bills on record, but this last measure was far beyond it in senseless stupidity. That Sir Jeffrey Amherst should be indignant at this conduct is no matter for surprise, or that he should take measures to be relieved of a command where his sagacious and masterly measures were liable to be thwarted by a lot of self-sufficient, ignorant, and bigoted sectaries. Before his departure he made a requisition upon the several provinces for troops to march against the Indians early in spring; and having left the command to General Gage, he sailed for England early in November.

Pennsylvania had been called upon to furnish 1,000 men; but it was late in the spring before the silly House of Assembly voted £50,000 for the service of the campaign. All the other provinces had cheerfully complied with the requisition, and preparations were made to open the campaign of 1764 with such a force as would make resistance impossible.

COMPANY F, Thirty-fifth Infantry, has been relieved from further duty at the post of San Antonio, Texas, and will proceed to Fort McKavett, Texas. Company D, Thirty-fifth Infantry, will, upon the arrival of Company F, Thirty-fifth Infantry, at Fort McKavett, be relieved from further duty at that post, and will proceed to San Antonio, Texas, for duty at that post.

COMPANY F, Twenty-third Infantry, has been ordered to San Juan Island, W. T., to relieve Battery I, Second Artillery, ordered to Fort Wrangell, Alaska.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

The Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

THE *Portsmouth*, Commander Skerrett, arrived at New York on Wednesday from Hampton Roads.

THE U. S. store-ship *Onward*, late store-ship at Hong Kong, having arrived at San Francisco, California, has been ordered to duty in the South Pacific Squadron.

A NAVAL Retiring Board, composed of the following officers, convened at the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, on October 5, 1868: Captain Wm. H. Macomb, Captain J. C. Howell, Captain Pierce Crosby, Surgeon H. O. Mayo, Surgeon P. Lausdale, Passed Assistant Paymaster W. F. A. Torbert, judge-advocate.

MR. ALVIN P. HOVEY, our Minister to Peru, in his dispatch to Secretary Seward, giving an account of the recent earthquakes in that country, says: "I take great pride in informing you that Rear-Admiral Thomas Turner, Captain McDougal, Commanders James H. Gillis, James S. Thornton, Austin Penderghast, and the other officers and crews of their commands in our navy, near the scenes of danger, have done all that noble-hearted, brave sailors could do, to alleviate the sufferings of all within their reach."

THE *Oncida* took in stores at Nagasaki, Japan, and on the 17th of August sailed for Hiogo. At last reports from the Asiatic Squadron, the *Monocacy* was at Shanghai; the *Ashuelot* at Chefoo; the *Iroquois* at Hiogo; and the *Piscataqua*, *Shenandoah*, *Unadilla* and *Aroostook* at Yokohama. Ensigns Yates, Arnold, and Sargent have been detached from the *Idaho*, and ordered to the *Oncida*.

NORFOLK NAVY-YARD.—The officers for the U. S. steamer *Yantic*, reported for duty on the 1st inst., as follows: Lieutenant-Commanders, Robert Boyd, Jr., in command, Henry C. Tallman; Lieutenant, Edwin White; Assistant Paymaster, John R. Carmody; Assistant Surgeon, J. D. Smith; Masters, Francis M. Barber, Wallace Graham; Ensign, Frederick W. Crocker; First Assistant Engineer, George D. Emmons; Second Assistant Engineers, T. L. Vanderslice, Henry W. Quig, Jefferson Brown; Third Assistant Engineer, William S. Moore. The vessel has not as yet been placed in commission. A draft of fifteen men, per New York steamer, arrived on the 5th inst., and were transferred to the receiving-ship *New Hampshire*. Acting Master George T. Ford, navigation officer of the U. S. receiving-ship *New Hampshire*, has received a leave of absence for two months, to take effect as soon as his relief reports, at the expiration of which he will be out the service. The U. S. steamers *Contocook* and *Portsmouth* left Hampton Roads last Friday.

THE U. S. steamer *Contocook*, Rear-Admiral H. K. Hoff, (flag-ship), arrived at New York October 5th. The following is a list of her officers:

Rear-Admiral Henry K. Hoff, commanding North Atlantic Squadron.

ADMIRAL'S STAFF.—Fleet Captain, J. C. P. DeKroff; Fleet Lieutenant-Commander, Marston Niles; Rear-Admiral's Secretary, Frederick S. Mason; Rear-Admiral's Aide, Richardson Clover (midshipman); Rear-Admiral's Clerk, Lawrence B. Hoff; Fleet Captain's Clerk, Edmund Parys.

OFFICERS OF FLAG-SHIP.—Captain, George B. Balch, commanding; Lieutenant-Commander, Nath. Green, ex-officer; Lieutenant-Commander, B. F. Day, navigator and ordnance officer; Lieutenants-Commanders, W. R. Bridgeman, Yates Sterling; Lieutenants, George M. Armentrout, G. F. F. Wilde; Midshipmen, George B. Clay, George M. Williams, E. D. F. Heald, F. H. Delano, H. C. English, Robert M. Thompson, Theodore F. Wood, H. M. Tallman, J. B. Smith, H. B. Stinson, C. W. Chipp, W. M. Cowgill, Alfred Elliott, James D. Adams, C. W. Jarboe; Fleet Paymaster, J. D. Murray; Fleet Surgeon, J. D. Miller; Fleet Engineer, Thomas A. Shock; Fleet Marine Officer, Captain H. A. Bartlett; Chaplain, J. J. Kane; Assistant Surgeons, G. S. Culbreth, J. G. Ayers; Second Lieutenant U. S. Marine Corps, A. L. Mason; First Assistant Engineers, Edwin Wells, H. D. McEwen, H. C. Beckwith; Second Assistant Engineers, James Watts, T. Cooke; Acting Third Assistant Engineer, Edward F. McElliott; Third Assistant Engineer, C. M. Ren; Fleet Paymaster's Clerk, J. J. Connelly; Boatswain, A. M. Pomeroy; Gunner, James Hayes; Sailmaker, Nicholas Lynch; Carpenter, George E. Anderson.

The *Contocook* sailed from Norfolk on the 25th ult., where she had been three months undergoing repairs. From Hampton Roads she was thirty-three hours on the way to New York, anchoring at the Horse Shoe on Sunday night at 11 P. M. She now lies in the North River, opposite Pier No. 1. She will probably remain at her present anchorage for a week or two.

M. O. L. L. U. S.

A STATED meeting of the New York Commandery was held at Delmonico's, corner of Fifth Avenue and Fourteenth Street, on Wednesday Evening, October 7th, at 8 o'clock. The following-named Gentlemen, Candidates for Membership, were duly elected companions of the First Class—Brevet Major-General Quincy A. Gillmore, major U. S. Engineer Corps; Brevet Brigadier-General Wysses Doubleday, late Colonel Forty-fifth U. S. C. Infantry; Brevet Major-General James McQuade, late Colonel Fourteenth New York Volunteers; Brevet Brigadier-General Duncan S. Walker, late Lieutenant-Colonel, A. A. G.; Paymaster Washington Irving, (Commander) U. S. Navy; Brevet Major J. Henry Mahken, First Lieutenant Eighth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Captain Otho E. Michaelis, First Lieutenant U. S. Ordnance Department; Chaplain M. J. Cramer, late U. S. Army;

Brevet Captain Frederick C. Von Schirach, First Lieutenant Forty-third U. S. Infantry; Major-General William F. Smith, late U. S. Volunteers; Colonel J. E. O'Beirne, late Thirty-seventh New York Volunteers; Major Joseph M. Homiston, late Surgeon Sixteenth New York Cavalry. Companion of the Third Class—Mr. Luther B. Wyman, Brooklyn, N. Y.

AT a stated meeting of the Boston Commandery, held at the Parker House, School street, on Tuesday evening, October 6th, at half-past seven o'clock, the following named gentlemen, candidates for membership, were balloted for, and elected companions of the first class: Brevet Brigadier-General W. Raymond Lee, late colonel Twentieth Massachusetts Volunteers; First Lieutenant William Hedge, late Forty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers; Captain James G. Hill, late Ninety-seventh U. S. Colored Infantry; Lieutenant-Colonel Frank S. Hessel-tine, late Thirteenth Maine Volunteers; First Lieutenant E. B. Chipman, late Twenty-first Connecticut Volunteers; Major Edward T. Bouve, late Fourth Massachusetts Volunteer Cavalry; Captain Jacob H. Lombard, late Forty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers; Major Stephen Cabot, late First battalion Massachusetts Volunteer Heavy Artillery; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. Lewis Stackpole, late major and judge-advocate, U. S. Volunteers; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen M. Crosby, late major and paymaster U. S. Army; Major General Ambrose E. Burnside, late U. S. Army; Brevet Major-General William F. Bartlett, late brigadier-general U. S. Volunteers; Major O. L. Hatch, late paymaster U. S. Army.

SOME HINTS FOR OFFICE-SEEKERS.

As a large portion of our subscribers already hold office under General Grant, they may, perhaps be interested in reading the following hints given by the *New York Sun*, to that growing class of eager outsiders, who are anxious to hold office under the General, in case he is elected to the presidency.

1. Be honest. He does not want any but honest men under him. If you have not been very honest heretofore, turn over a new leaf now—this is a good time to begin, the 1st of October—and be strictly honest hereafter. In such case your recommendations may run thus: "We are acquainted with the bearer; since Oct. 1, 1868, he has been an honest man." That will be better than nothing. If you don't get any appointment, the honesty will do you good. We never knew any constitution with which, on a thorough trial, honesty was not found to agree. Honesty is said to be the best policy, though it is never found in Policy Shops.

2. If you wish to be Minister to France, learn to speak French. But if you wish to be Minister to Spain, you need not learn to walk Spanish, as that will come to you naturally at the time you apply.

3. If you desire to go as Minister to England, borrow a suit of Horace Greeley's old clothes, and also get the loan of his head for the occasion; for no one who does not wear a suit of Mr. Greeley's clothes, and carry Mr. Greeley's head on his shoulders, can be Minister to England.

4. If you wish to be Secretary of the Treasury, get the recommendations of Gov. Fenton and Gov. Morgan.

5. If you take a fancy to the office of Secretary of State, write a recommendation of yourself, dwelling rather more emphatically on your rare talents, your acquirements, and your splendid abilities, than on anything else, and take it to the Hon. Charles Sumner, and tell him how handsome you think his autograph would look at the bottom of it.

6. Possibly the Navy Department might suit you. Mr. Marshall O. Roberts has had a long and large experience in ships, and knows all about how the navy should be managed. His name to your recommendation would be about the most desirable one that you could try to get.

7. The War Department is a place of great power, and under Mr. Johnson has been deemed worth very violent contention. We do not think Gen. Lorenzo Thomas will stand in the way of your having that place. Gen. Henry Wilson has considerable knowledge of the War Department. He has become quite familiar with it, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs. It would not be at all strange if that man in the United States whom Senator Wilson considers the best qualified to be Secretary of War, should be appointed to that office.

8. You might write daily to Gen. Grant, if you know how to write; and if you don't, you'd better learn. He receives a large quantity of letters every day, and if you don't write to him, he may not think about you. Speak highly of him in your letters, and of yourself also. Let him understand that, although he happens to be a little the most distinguished, yet you deserve to be. Mention the large number of widows and orphans that you have to support, and the wives and children who are entirely dependent on your appointment. Say to the General that you always thought he was next to Gen. Washington, especially when he was hauling wood into St. Louis, and tending store in Galena, although you never wrote to him about it before. Explain to him that the only reason why you did not write then was because you did not know his address. Tell him that the world has now found out that the opinion which you always held of him was correct.

9. If you wish an appointment to a situation in the Post Office, learn to read writing with facility. It is said that many have been appointed there who could not do this.

10. If you fought in the army, that will tell in your favor; but not if you fought on the rebel side.

11. If you voted for Seymour, don't mention it. If you voted for Grant, name the number of times.

12. A wooden leg will be a recommendation, but not a wooden head. If you were running for Judge in some judicial districts, it might be different.

DEDICATION OF THE SEDGWICK STATUE.

ARMY BUILDING, NEW YORK CITY,
October 6, 1868.

The dedication of the Memorial Statue of Major-General John Sedgwick, U. S. Volunteers, will take place with appropriate ceremonies at West Point, New York, on Wednesday, the 21st of October, at four and-a-half o'clock P. M.

The officers and soldiers of the Sixth Corps, with all others who were under General Sedgwick's command, and officers of the Army, Navy, and Volunteer services, are invited to attend without further formality, as it is impossible for the committee to extend special invitations.

This statue, erected through the contributions of the officers and soldiers of the Sixth Corps to the memory of their beloved commander, was designed by Mr. Launt Thompson, of this city, and cast from captured cannon contributed by the nation, under the following resolution of the Congress of the United States:

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be, and he is, hereby authorized and required to place in charge of Major-General H. G. Wright, Major-General Frank Wheaton, Major-General George W. Getty and Major-General Truman Seymour, three bronze cannon, captured by the Sixth Army Corps in battle, for the construction of a statue of the late Major-General John Sedgwick, to be placed on a monument erected to his memory by the Sixth Corps of the Army of the Potomac.

The Hon. George W. Curtis, of New York, will deliver the dedicatory oration.

Nothing in the power of the committee will be left undone towards making the dedication worthy of the memory of the illustrious deceased; and it is hoped that not only the members of the Sixth Corps, but officers and men of the Army, Navy and Volunteer services, and friends of General Sedgwick generally, will be present to take part in the ceremonies of the occasion.

H. G. WRIGHT,
Major-General of Volunteers, late commander of Sixth Army Corps;

GEORGE W. GETTY,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers, late commander Second Division Sixth Army Corps;

FRANK WHEATON,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers, late commander First Division Sixth Army Corps;

TRUMAN SEYMOUR,
Brevet Major-General of Volunteers, late commander Third Division Sixth Army Corps,
Committee.

GENERAL SCHOFIELD ON GENERAL GRANT.

THE following letter of General Schofield, which was written while he was in command of a military district, has recently been made public:

HEADQUARTERS FIRST MILITARY DISTRICT,
RICHMOND, VA., May 25, 1868.

General U. S. Grant, Washington, D. C.

DEAR GENERAL: I hope you will not think it out of place for me to tender you my most hearty congratulations upon the action of the Chicago convention. The perfect unanimity and great enthusiasm of your nomination, were certainly highly gratifying as being a formal ratification of the popular endorsements of your public record, which have heretofore been made throughout the country. But your unanimous nomination was long predetermined, and was but the fulfilment of universal expectation. On the other hand, when the convention met, there was ground for apprehension that its action in other respects might not be so wise. But that apprehension has, at least in a great degree, been dispelled. The judicious selection of Mr. Colfax as second on the ticket, and the general practical wisdom displayed in framing the platform—that is, in laying down practical rules of action, based on the necessities of the country, instead of abstract political theories—have greatly increased the probabilities of success, and at the same time made that success the more to be desired. I have always believed that the Union could be fully restored only by the men who put down the rebellion, while I have not been without serious apprehensions that, by forcing upon the country extreme radical theories, the stability of the government might be endangered. Great reforms require time for their full development—time in which theories may be analyzed, and that which is sound and of practical utility separated from the unsound and chimerical. Wisdom and moderation in Congress will now give the country restoration and peace. Your election to the presidency will be the end to our political troubles, as your accession to the command-in-chief of the Army was the end of the Southern rebellion. Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
J. M. SCHOFIELD,
Brevet Major-General.

OUR NAVY OF FORTY YEARS AGO.

THE following is a description of the American Navy, as it appeared to an English officer in the year 1829. As will be readily seen, forty years have wrought some changes in this hand of the public service:

Many absurd statements concerning the organization of the American navy have been circulated in Europe. There is none more false or more foolish than the story that young mates of merchantmen are, or ever have been taken for the first steps in the service. Boys, between the ages of twelve and eighteen, receive the appointments of midshipmen, and, after having served a certain number of years, they are examined for Lieutenants. These examinations are very rigid, and they are conducted with the greatest impartiality. While the writer was in America, he formed an intimacy with the commander of a frigate. One day, at Washington, he entered the room of the captain, just as a naval officer of high rank was quitting it. "You met one of the commissioners at the door," said the writer's acquaintance; "he has been to beg I would make his son, who is just ordered to my ship, mind his books. They tell me the

young fellow is clever enough, and a very good sailor; but he has been twice defeated in trying to get through his mathematics, because he will not study." In what other navy would a son of a Lord of the Admiralty lose his commission, in two examinations, for want of a little mathematics? The most severe system of examination, not only into professional qualifications, but into moral character, is now rigidly observed in the American army and navy. The lower ranks of both branches of their service are admirably filled. Midshipmen, instead of being taken from the merchant service, have often been taken from the service under furloughs, to command merchant ships. No man in the world is more jealous of his rank than the American navy or army officer. It would far exceed the power of the President to push his own son an inch beyond the steps he is entitled to by his age and service. The senate would refuse to approve of such a nomination. The same impartiality is observed in respect to commands. A captain or commander is not only sure of getting a ship, when his turn comes, but he must have an excellent excuse, or he will be made to take one. Both establishments are kept within reasonable bounds, and promotions are slow and wary. There is not a single officer necessarily on half-pay, either in the land or sea service. There is not now, nor has there been for twenty years, an officer in the American navy, in command of a ship, the four or five oldest excepted, who did not regularly enter the marine as a midshipman. Even the oldest entered as low as a lieutenant, thirty years ago. A secretary of the navy during the war of 1812, is said to have wished to introduce a brother from the merchant service, by giving him the command of a cartel, but entirely without success. Some six or eight clever men, who entered as sailing masters, a class generally taken from the merchant service, have been so successful as to get commissions, a favor a little out of course, though sometimes practised to reward merit. Several of these even were midshipmen who had resigned, and had re-entered as masters, in the war, because they thought themselves too old to begin anew as midshipmen.

MESSRS. J. B. Ford & Co., of New York, have commenced the publication of the *Plymouth Pulpit*, which is to contain the sermons of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, week by week, as they are delivered. The first number of this publication, which is now before us, contains a card from Mr. Beecher stating that after January 1, 1869, the sermons printed by Ford & Co. will be the only ones which go before the public with his consent. The principal attraction of several of the religious papers has in times past been their republication of Mr. Beecher's sermons; and those persons who desire to read the words of this eminent divine will find them presented in the *Plymouth Pulpit* in a very attractive and readable form.

THE Twenty-ninth U. S. Infantry, which have been stationed in the city of Washington for some time past, has been ordered to Nashville, Tenn.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should be invariably addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

FORT KODIAC, ALASKA.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The U. S. troops whose lot it has been to first occupy the Island of Kodiak, consist of Battery G, Second Artillery, commanded by Lieutenant Huggins and numbering one hundred men. The good ship *Atlanta*, freighted with the men of the battery and government stores, entered the Harbor of St. Paul's, on the 5th of June last, after a somewhat tedious, but withal, pleasant voyage of thirty-five days from San Francisco.

In place of Fort Kodiak proving to be a dismal waste, uninhabitable by civilized beings, we found a rather picturesque and decidedly comfortable-looking village of about one hundred substantially-built log houses. It is environed by the somewhat circuitous entrance to the harbor, a noble looking mountain at whose base the village lies, and a wooded flat extending to the sea. The surrounding country, visible from the post, is mountainous and presents a scene of somewhat bleak but imposing grandeur. Only on the highest peaks can white patches of snow be seen, and these have been gradually disappearing, until I doubt not, that every trace of the footprints of last winter shall have gone before the coming one makes his presence known. Vegetation here is quite luxuriant. Wild flowers and fruit grow in abundance, and the country is rich in pasture for the greater part of the year, and the soil, I should imagine, is capable of yielding all the products common to temperate climates.

During the three months of our stay here, the weather has been mild and genial, the air pure and bracing, with only an occasional wet or foggy day. As compared with the climate of California in the corresponding period of the year, those who have resided in both places express their preference for Kodiak, and the general improvement in the health of the troops since they have been quartered here, testifies to the correctness of this view. To be sure, we have not yet undergone a winter's experience, but I am not disposed to believe it will be so rigorous as many imagine, and think that its severities are much exaggerated. At this station the thermometer rarely falls below zero, although I believe severe wind storms occasionally prevail, and are more to be dreaded than the intensity of the cold. The inhabitants are, however, generally well fortified against the influence of the weather; their dwellings, although not boasting of much architectural beauty, are well and substantially built. Heavy pieces of timber are laid on the top of each other and securely dovetailed at the ends; all cracks and interstices are caulked with moss, and thus made perfectly air tight; they are roofed with two or

three thicknesses of inch plank, and the best of them are provided with large furnaces by which the interior, with much economy of fuel, can be heated to any temperature required; even the most pretentious of these habitations only possess one entrance, which is invariably situated in the rear or side of the building, but never by any chance in the front. House rent is absurdly high, arising from the fact that most of the buildings are owned by the American Fur Company, whose policy seems to be to give the applicant the alternative of paying the rent their cupidity may demand, or going shelterless.

On the Island bears and other furred animals cannot be found in such numbers as was supposed, or they must take refuge in remote and inaccessible places, therefore, although several parties have gone out, on what by a polite fiction was termed hunting expeditions, yet so far as I am aware not a fur or feather have they brought back with them to grace their return and testify to their prowess. Several specimens of quartz have, however, been brought here, and old miners seem to think they indicate that gold may be found not very far off.

The native Indians and half-breeds, who are the aborigines of the Aleutian Islands, are a simple-minded, peaceably-disposed and stupid set of people, out of whom all vitality seems to have evaporated. They are an apathetic and indifferent class, apparently destitute of the feeling of any human interests, loving to loaf and lean at their ease, and vegetating rather than living; they subsist chiefly on salmon, which they eat raw, brown bread, and tea. When hunger compels them to do something for a living, they occupy themselves in hunting and fishing, occasionally doing a little work for the Fur Company at correspondingly small wages. This company buy all their furs, at prices certainly not very conducive to the enrichment of the poor Indian, whatever it may be to the buyer. There is very good fishing ground a few miles from this station, which has been taken advantage of by the troops, who occasionally go on small fishing expeditions. As many as eight or ten barrels of salmon have been landed in a single draught of the seine, and this, of course furnishes a very welcome supplement to the not too savory pork ration provided by Uncle Sam.

The troops are presently quartered in several rooms of a large storehouse, hired for the purpose, until the completion of the barracks which are being erected with all speed. The storehouse is rather an antiquated building, and somewhat rickety and unsteady on its legs; the rats moreover, nightly hold high carnival among its decayed timbers, to the disturbance of the slumbers of the men. The new buildings will, it is expected, be ready for occupancy in about six weeks; they promise to be excellent quarters and I make no doubt will prove to be as comfortable lodgings as can be found on the Pacific coast. A parade ground is being made immediately in front of the quarters; public buildings are being whitewashed, roads made, and all quartermaster's work is being pushed forward with much vigor, so that already the post presents quite a different and improved aspect to what it did when we landed. There is a small wharf which can accommodate but one vessel, with a large storehouse attached, but it is seldom that either a steamer or sailing vessel is in port, and at this moment three sailing ships and one steamer float in the harbor, which gives quite a lively and commercial air to the place. The soldiers have been utilized in unloading government stores, coal, lumber, etc., and recently they have done the State some service in this way, so that many of us are qualified to be efficient long-shoremen against our time is up.

There is a small island called Wood Island, which divides the two entrances into the harbor, and here vessels load cargoes of ice for San Francisco and the Sandwich Islands. Quite a number of shipments are made annually, and the company own some good warehouses and private dwellings. A plentiful supply of wood and sand can likewise be found there.

When we took possession of the post, we found of Government buildings a small hospital capable of containing half-a-dozen patients, a good house, now used as officers' quarters, and a very commodious and substantial building, which serves as post headquarters, acting as assistant quartermaster and commissary offices, besides a rather tumble-down domicile, in which live the laundresses. The United States likewise came into possession of three or four monster pieces of artillery, of 14 and 2-lbs., mounted on an impregnable fortress of inch plank. This formidable battery was, I understand, used in keeping the hostile Indians of a century ago in a state of salutary terror, and inspiring them with a profound respect for the military power of the Emperor of all the Russias. The four United States howitzers, which accompanied the battery, are placed on a slight eminence, commanding the entrance to the harbor, and it is to be hoped that their brazen throats will never utter angrier sounds than is daily heard at reveille and retreat.

The only place of worship here is the Greek church, a large, quadrangular building, with a dome and chime of bells. The interior is hung with paintings on sacred subjects and the other paraphernalia of worship. So far as I can judge, the pictures are for the most part respectable works of art. The worship is mostly ceremonial, and to a stranger seems more ludicrous than impressive.

During the past month we have received a large addition to the strength of the garrison in Battery F, Second Artillery. It had been ordered to Kenai, in Cook's Inlet, but suffered shipwreck on a reef of rocks when near its destination. Everything was lost but life; the ship filled so rapidly that the men had no time to save any of their personal effects; and they are consequently in a pitiable plight. Subsequently to the disaster, a quantity of provisions and some Government stores drifted ashore, and were picked up, but the bulk of the cargo was lost. Intelligence of the shipwreck was brought to this post by Indians, and fortunately a steamer was intercepted by the commanding officer here, and sent to their assistance. She received them

on board, and brought them to this post in safety. This is, without doubt, a dangerous coast, and comparatively few ship captains are acquainted with its navigation; the charts are, moreover, said to be of doubtful correctness.

Quite an amicable feeling subsists between the Russians, natives and soldiers, with every probability of its long continuance. I am not myself aware of a single instance where bad feeling has been manifested on either side. The Russians and Indians are quite conciliating in their intercourse with the soldiers, and there is no bone of contention calculated to disturb this desirable state of things.

COMMUNIQUE.

FORT KODIAC, ALASKA TERRITORY, August 24, 1868.

CHANGES OF STATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: An article recently appeared in your paper urging a change in the garrisons of the artillery stations on the southern Atlantic posts; and the writer proposes here to discourse the wisdom, propriety and necessity for such a change. No doubt the members of the regiment now at those posts would like to get away from them, for everybody dislikes disagreeable stations. But this is the only *unanswerable* reason for making the change, all others can be readily disposed of.

First, It is not wise policy to remove a body of troops acclimated to one region to another totally differing in its character or climate. The proposed change sends a regiment from "the frozen bosom of the North" to the hottest clime to be found in our country, and *vice versa*. If any medical man in or out of the Army, will pronounce this a wise sanitary measure for either regiment, the writer has not met with him.

Second, If recruits will be required in the spring, to fill up the artillery regiment now garrisoning the southern posts, let them be sent now, as it is recommended by medical officers, not to send unacclimated troops south in the spring or summer.

Third, The reputed unhealthy posts garrisoned by the Fifth Artillery are Fort Jefferson, Key West and Pensacola. The former being a barren rock in the midst of the ocean should be free from malaria and its consequent fevers, if its commander be efficient and vigilant. The commanding officer at Pensacola had no cases of yellow fever during the sickly season at the other posts in 1867, and an officer equally as efficient might have done likewise at Key West and the Tortugas.

Fourth, Changes of station are the curse of our life in the Army, and should be made in cases of absolute necessity only, and even then they would occur too frequently. Our pay is barely sufficient when "let alone," but when we have to "live and move and have our beings" with us, the result is, as in Mr. Micawber's case, poverty and misery.

Fifth, If some of the artillery stations in the South are unhealthy to white troops, let them be garrisoned by colored troops, of which there are two regiments in the Department of the South; and send the artillery to their old stations, St. Augustine, Savannah, Charleston, Beaufort and Smithville. This will give the regiment comparatively healthy stations, and conduce to its discipline and instruction by concentration at a few posts.

Sixth, If this be not feasible, do not make an *extreme* change of stations, but send the regiment of artillery geographically the nearest to relieve the one at the unhealthy post; to be followed by another change in two or three years; a regiment gradually progressing to the North and another to the South.

MEDICO.

ARMY OFFICERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In your issue of the 29th of August, 1868, is a communication signed "Army Blue," which, if written in a spirit of sarcasm, may be passed over, but if written in sober, serious, earnestness deserves a few words of condemnation. The theory of "Army Blue" that commissions in the Army should only be held by men of private fortune, is, under our peculiar form of government, at variance with the first principles upon which the American Republic is based, and which is laid down in the Declaration of Independence, viz: "All men are born free and equal," an axiom that opens the door to all positions of honor, trust, and profit to the meanest-born man under the American flag, an axiom by which even "railsplitters," and "tailors," and "tanners" have reached the highest position in the gift of the American people. The doctrine of "Army Blue," if he is serious in the sentiments expressed in his "Plea for the Reduction of Army Pay," is only suited to the monarchical countries of the old world, where the nobles and titled aristocracy rule, as a class, and the ignorant and poor are ground down under the iron heel of oppression, virtually "hewers of wood and drawers of water," and who furnish the wealth for this "aristocratic" class by which their supremacy is sustained over the "poor," although among that self same "poor" are often found as brilliant intellects and as clear brains as any among the "rich." If our army was only officered by men who were born with silver spoons in their mouths, it would not be long before commissions would go a begging for accepters, for men of wealth would not spend a tithe of their lives on our frontiers engaged in the delightful pastime of hunting Indians, risking occasionally the chance of an arrow through their precious bodies.

The communication of "Army Blue," can only be looked upon as a "satire" drawn forth by the numerous articles which have been produced as "Pleas for Increase of Pay," and which have appeared from time to time in the JOURNAL. Although the writer of this article has heard "Army Blue's" sentiments expressed by one gentleman who wears shoulder-straps in our army, and who, at the time he gave utterance to such sentiments did not have a *sous-marche* over and above the pay he was then receiving from our good old Uncle Sam, having gained a position here which he never could have attained in his own country, where the "aristocrats" hold all the offices of honor, trust, and profit, and the so-called "*parvenus*" have no show because they are of another "class."

OLD SOLDIER.

ENGINEERS IN THE NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: As there has been considerable controversy for some time past in regard to the rank and pay of engineers in the Navy, I propose adopting the plan now used in the merchant service, which I think will meet with the approbation of all parties, and especially be acceptable to the engineers themselves.

The law of Congress for classing engineers is now and has been used with perfect success for a number of years; and as it has worked so well in the merchant Navy, would it not be well to adopt it in the U. S. Navy?

The law, with the exception of fleet engineers, is as follows: Fleet engineers, first class chief engineers, second class chief engineers, third class chief engineers, first class assistant engineers, second class assistant engineers, third class assistant engineers. The requisite number, one for each squadron, taken from the head of the list of chief engineers, should be appointed permanently as fleet engineers, and have the rank and pay of commodores; first class chiefs, one for each first-rate, with the rank and pay of captains; second class chiefs, one for each second rate, with the rank and pay of commanders; third class chiefs, one for each third rate, with the rank and pay of lieutenant-commanders; first class assistants, to fourth rates, with the rank and pay of lieutenants; second class assistants, to have the rank and pay of masters; third class assistants, to have rank and pay of ensigns. This would make seven grades of engineers, corresponding with, and equalizing, the rank and pay with the seven line officers from a commodore to an ensign. Promotions to be made to the higher grades as vacancies occur, or the wants of the service require.

J. M. M.

SUGGESTIONS ABOUT ENLISTMENTS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In the JOURNAL of the 29th of August, which is just at hand, I notice your remarks upon desertion in the Army. Now I believe that the only way to prevent desertion is to make the penalty severe. I believe in getting the men, no matter at what cost. Then send them to a military prison, which can be made self-supporting. Let them manufacture boots and shoes, and articles of clothing, and be kept there such length of time as a court-martial may sentence them to serve. Have all men convicted of theft, also sent there.

Companies of discipline are, I think, necessary, but men who have disgraced themselves so far as to desert, should never again be trusted with arms. There are plenty of suitable candidates for such companies, without taking deserters. Let Congress appropriate all the fines and forfeitures in the army, to the payment of the extra expenses of companies of discipline, and of military prisons, and there will be plenty of funds, after the prisons are put in working order, without increasing the expenses of the army.

One of your correspondents thinks there will be a remedy by separating the men of companies into squads, etc. That is a good idea, and to supply the soldiers in garrison with mattresses might probably be done at small cost, and increase their comfort. But that is not enough, we must get better men, and then keep our agreement with them. Do not require them to work, unless we enlist them for that especial purpose. This makes at least four-fifths of the desertions in this region. I believe, too, we do not pay our men enough to attract a good class; that if we make it an object for good men to enlist, we can have them. My plan would be, in brief, this: Enlist men for five years in infantry, and for seven in cavalry; establish regulations by which a soldier can purchase his discharge; let them have all the articles which are needed from the quartermaster's department, and not have to pay, as at this post, exorbitant prices for gloves, blacking, etc. Make the tobacco issue a part of the ration. Pay them ten dollars per month with a complete outfit of clothing when they join their companies, and then a fixed amount per month as clothing money, which they get unless they draw it in kind. Have no stoppages for soldier's home, or retained pay. Have a grade of first-class privates, and pay them seventeen dollars per month. Provide how they shall be selected, and that they cannot be reduced except by sentence of a general court-martial, or if a court is established of a higher grade than regimental or garrison courts. Let that have power to reduce them, but prohibit garrison courts doing so. Pay corporals \$25, sergeants \$35, first sergeants \$45 per month. That non-commissioned officers who have been discharged as such, and first-class privates may re-enlist as first-class privates. And when soldiers are discharged make it the duty of the company commander to state the character of the soldier, whether he can recommend him or not. Not "cut the tail off the discharge" as now.

Enlist men for the quartermaster's department and keep soldiers for what is ordinarily considered "soldier's duty." Cut down the army, if necessary, but keep them out of the offices, and with their companies. Attach a sufficient number of old soldiers, as is now done for ordnance sergeants, to furnish each post with a sergeant-major, and the necessary clerks. Provide that the color-sergeant, color-guard, general guides, etc., allowed by the tactics to a regiment shall be extra, and from them the regimental commander shall detail the necessary clerks. Department and district headquarters to be supplied by men enlisted for the purpose, or transferred from the line. Give these men a different uniform from the fighting men.

In a short time after these changes are made, you will find we have fewer desertions, and an army which is really efficient. We will obtain good men.

I would also require all recruits to be sent to a depot, and kept there until they had learned their drill and were properly disciplined. If this was not done in six months, a man should be sent to a discipline company or discharged. It would be the cheapest in the long run.

There is another thing that must be done if we would have an army. We must have regulations, and they

must bind every person, from the newly-joined recruit to the commanding officer. Our Blue Book is a sham—sometimes it is followed, but oftener it is disregarded. I could point out many cases where to follow it, as laid down, would subject an officer, at least, to censure, if nothing worse. This is wrong, it should be so clearly written as to leave no chance for error in construction of its paragraphs. And if there were paragraphs inserted, which the war department intend a commanding officer to disobey at his pleasure, let them say so in plain English. I don't see any difficulty in having everything necessary, clearly defined, and so done that there is no necessity for going contrary to the book. Of course there are many things which ought to be left to the discretion of the commanding officer. Let that be done. But when one way is laid down, require all to comply. Where discretion is intended, say so, or put in the paragraph, so the commanding officer "may." Have the book so perfect that there is no need of talking about the "custom of the service." That is used now-a-days to justify an officer's whims.

When Congress considers the army is a body that is worthy of being kept in a high state of discipline—good officers kept, and bad ones dismissed—in short, that only gentlemen are appointed as officers—and they are considered so, as far as their treatment by the law-making power can do so; when the sentences of general court-martial are enforced, and unworthy officers are not re-appointed to the places from which they were properly dismissed—then we may have an army with but little desertion—and one which will be known to the people at large for what it accomplishes—and not as now, considered a source of expense only.

MONTANA.

SHERMAN'S MARCH TO THE SEA.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: At regular intervals since the triumphant success of Sherman's march from Atlanta, and the staggering and finally decisive blow thereby rendered to the rebellion, certain pretenders or their friends have put forward claims to the conception of that *chef-d'œuvre* of strategical achievements. The confidence with which these claims are asserted, in view of the mass of facts readily attainable by which their fictitious character may be demonstrated, would be really amazing if there was not such an abundance of proof that the maximum of military reputation may be so easily fabricated from the minimum of military merit. A few months after the close of the war, many foreign generals enlightened their readers with astounding discoveries on this point—though some of them have since become wiser—and within the last few weeks new candidates for the honor have been presented; and while the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL and the daily press are giving currency to these fictions, not one of the hundreds, so far as I am informed, who know how thoroughly unreal and imaginary they are, has ventured to give them an authoritative contradiction.

In those years of strategical fecundity, 1861 and 1862, editors, army correspondents, solid men and strong-minded women, men of elegant leisure and women of "culture," and almost every one, in short, who read the newspapers, had a plan and panacea to end the rebellion. General Scott's favorite idea of the anaconda seemed to inspire the whole country with strategical pretensions. Long before they could be raised, armies were to be marched in all directions; the back bone of the rebellion was to be broken, the shell to be cracked, the extremities to be paralyzed, and the cold steel then driven to the heart. Any one of this grand congress of strategists might lay as much claim to the original idea of Sherman's March, as those whose friends and admirers have more particularly sought to secure the honor for their favorite hero.

Recent events have given a new impulse to the ungenerous attempts to tear the laurels from the real hero, and appropriate them to others. In a recent speech, an ex-brigadier-general, and now the honored chief magistrate of a great State, has asserted that, "nine months before Atlanta was taken," General Grant had "planned the march to the sea," and has supported the declaration with a plausible statement of circumstances that might, to some minds, carry conviction. But apart from the fact that General Grant was not much in the habit of revealing or discussing his plans with officers, however high their rank, who happened to dine with him, there can hardly be a doubt that General Geary has confounded one advance into the enemy's country with another; and in his just and enthusiastic admiration for General Grant, has claimed for him an honor which, as will be shown, that illustrious soldier had already disclaimed for himself. The merits and services of General Grant are so numerous, so well and widely known, and so universally acknowledged, that he seeks and requires no adventitious support to the solid fabric of his reputation. Not the least of the noble qualities which form and adorn his character, are his admirable sense of justice, his rare unselfishness, and his lofty magnanimity; and these have ever led him to award to all his lieutenants, the full credit of their services, and never to appropriate to himself the title of an honor that the world did not concede to him. I am just as well satisfied, therefore, that General Grant has no sympathy with Governor Geary in the assertion of this claim, as I am that he needs no borrowed honors to commend him to the just love, admiration and gratitude of his countrymen. He can afford not only to be just, but to be generous; in this case, however, there is no demand upon the latter, and he has attempted no invasion of the former.

As a consequence of Governor Geary's speech, "an officer of the Ninth corps" in a communication to a Boston paper, copied into the JOURNAL of the 4th of July, has claimed for the commander of that corps "the whole theory and detail" of Sherman's campaign. The evidence on which this claim is based, is a letter to General Halleck, written in 1863, and places it in the same category with the innumerable plans of campaign of that prolific era, to which I have already referred. The hour and the man, time, place, and circumstance, all show

that the idea could then have been no more than a military dream, a vague, shadowy, floating abstraction, without form or substance or possible practicability to give it any value. That Halleck should have given it the curt consideration so naively described by the writer, indicates that his military perceptions at that moment were clear and enlightened, and his judgment sound and healthy.

Without any reference to the relative genius, capacity for command, and soldieryship of the commanders of the Ninth Corps, and the Military division of the Mississippi, if any one will consider for a moment the time to be necessarily occupied in reaching Atlanta, the long line of operations, the constantly increasing obstacles requiring a general eminently fertile in resource to overcome, the unbroken series of battles, and the large number of men engaged, he will perceive how absurdly preposterous was the proposition then made, even if identical with the idea afterwards acted upon. The time has now come that the truth of history should be vindicated, and that so interesting a fact should no longer be left to that triangular debatable ground of historic doubts, which is bounded by the uncertain and indistinct lines of fiction, tradition, and truth. General W. T. Sherman was the author, and projector, as well as the executor of that magnificent achievement; and I now propose to examine the facts, and to demonstrate by the most conclusive evidence that his brain conceived the plan and that his hand wrought out the result. On this point I intend to

Let the probation have no hinge or loop
To hang a doubt upon.

In a "private and confidential" letter, dated Washington, April 4, 1864, giving General Sherman, who was then at Nashville, Tenn., a cursory view of his plans, General Grant thus wrote: "You I propose to move against Johnston's army, to break it up, and to get into the interior of the enemy's country, as far as you can. I do not propose to lay down for you a plan of campaign but simply to lay down the work it is advisable to have done, and leave you free to execute in your own way. Submit to me however, as early as you can, your plan of operations." Just one month before the date of this communication, General Grant had received notice of his appointment as lieutenant-general, and wrote that famous letter of March 4th, to his "Dear Sherman," in which he so felicitously and feelingly records the depth of his devotion and gratitude, in words that evidently come wet and warm from his heart. "What I want, is to express my thanks to you and McPherson, as the men to whom above all others, I feel indebted for whatever I have had of success. How far your advice and suggestions have been of assistance you know. How far your execution of whatever has been given you to do entitles you to the reward I am receiving, you cannot know as well as I. I feel all the gratitude this letter would express, giving it the most flattering construction." Now it can scarcely be believed, with this evidence before us, that General Geary should have been taken into confidence, which was withheld from General Sherman. And it follows *a fortiori*, that this "plan" which we are told General Geary knew all about in the preceding January, could not possibly have been that so vaguely set forth in the letter just quoted of the 4th of April. Nor can it be fairly assumed that General Grant, who knew from actual experience the character of the struggle which awaited General Sherman, could at that time have supposed it more than possible for the latter "to get into the interior of the enemy's country," as far as Atlanta; and any point beyond that would then have been deemed wild and chimerical by the most enthusiastic of our closet campaigners.

Here, then, we have the germ of the first responsible suggestion on the part of another, for the campaign that closed with the fall of Atlanta. It was a proposition "to move against Johnston's army," and, of necessity, depended so entirely upon the movements of that astute and able commander to determine the line of operations and where the objective point might be located, that it was not within the capacity of the most far seeing of soldiers to predict the result. But it was not until after Atlanta was reached, the long wished for goal attained, the struggle on which so many anxious eyes and prayerful hearts had been fixed so long, was finished on the 2d of September, that "the March to the sea" commenced. And where do we now find the earliest suggestion for this movement, since for the first time in the war, there seems to be a possibility of its accomplishment? On the 3d of September, from the "field near Lovejoy's Station, twenty-six miles south of Atlanta," General Sherman telegraphs to the chief-of-staff at Washington, "Atlanta is ours and fairly won." Five days afterward he telegraphs to the same, thus: "We are well and have no doubt, after a short rest, will be impatient again to sally forth in search of adventure." On the 10th of September, General Grant telegraphs Sherman from City Point, Va.: "Now that we have all of Mobile Bay that is valuable, I do not know but it will be the best move for Major-General Canby's troops to act upon Savannah, while you move on Augusta." To this General Sherman replied on the same day: "I do not think we can afford to operate further, dependent on the railroad, it takes so many men to guard it. If you can manage to take the Savannah River as high as Augusta, or the Chattahoochee, as far up as Columbus, I can sweep the whole State of Georgia." The same day he writes to General Grant more fully, and says: "The more I study the game, the more am I convinced that it would be wrong for me to penetrate much further into Georgia without an objective beyond. If you can whip Lee, and I can march to the Atlantic, I think Uncle Abe will give us twenty days' leave of absence to see the young folks." On the 26th, General Grant telegraphs in cipher: "It will be better to drive out Forrest from Middle Tennessee as a first step, and do anything else that you may feel your force sufficient for." The first direct and positive suggestion of the movement on Savannah, as finally executed, seem to have been made by General Sherman to General Halleck, three days after the above dispatch, and the language employed

indicates that opposition was anticipated. "I prefer," says he, "for the future, to make the movement on Milledgeville, Millen and Savannah River," the identical route that was afterward followed.

The next day appropriate orders were issued in all directions, showing that his mind was then made up, and that the native hue of resolution was not to be sicklied o'er with that pale cast of thought which springs from doubt, fear, or hesitation, and that no such regards were to turn away the current of an enterprise of great pith and moment, and thus lose the name of action. To his long-trying, faithful and ever victorious friend Thomas, he telegraphed on the last day of September, "I have notified all army commanders to stop furloughs. As soon as all things are ready, I will take advantage of his (Hood's) opening to me all of Georgia." And to the lieutenant-general, on the 1st of October, he sends the following pregnant question: "Why would it not do for me to leave Tennessee to the forces which Thomas has, destroy Atlanta, and then march across Georgia to Savannah or Charleston?" He tells General Schofield, the present able Secretary of War, on the 10th, "I want the first positive fact that Hood contemplates an invasion of Tennessee. Invite him to do so. Send him a free pass in."

While these official papers indicate unmistakably the purpose of General Sherman, it does not appear that he had yet succeeded in convincing the authorities in Washington of the wisdom and practicability of his plans, for on the 19th of October, he thus telegraphs Halleck, the chief-of-staff: "I propose to send the Fourth Corps back to General Thomas, and leave him with that corps, . . . and with the rest to push into the heart of Georgia, and come out at Savannah;" and in a letter of the same date, going more fully into details, he says: "I now consider myself authorized to execute my plan to destroy the railroad from Chattanooga to Atlanta, including the latter city (modified by General Grant, from Dalton, etc.), strike out into the heart of Georgia, and make for Charleston, Savannah, or the mouth of Appalachicola. . . . I will turn up somewhere, and believe I can take Macon, Milledgeville, Augusta and Savannah, Georgia, and wind up with closing the neck back of Charleston, and so they will starve out. This movement is not purely military or strategic, but it will illustrate the vulnerability of the South." On the next day he telegraphs General Slocum, then at Atlanta, and subsequently the skilful and energetic commander of the left wing of the Army: "Use all your energies to send to the rear everything not needed for the grand march. . . . I want to be near Atlanta and ready by November 1st." But on this November 1st, General Grant propounded an interrogatory, which might even then have arrested the movement, and brought the mighty idea to an untimely end. "Do you not think it advisable," he asks, "now that Hood has gone so far north, to entirely ruin him before starting on your proposed campaign? . . . If you can see the chance for destroying Hood's army, attend to that first, and make your other move secondary." General Sherman substantially replies that he does not "see the chance" or the necessity of his destroying Hood's army, because he is satisfied that Thomas will be quite able to dispose of that force and its "turning and twisting" commander, and if he turns back now, "the whole effect of his campaign will be lost." Fortunately for the country, this appeal was not made to that feeble imitation of an Aulic council, organized by "the greatest war minister of modern times," who, in his administration, seemed ever

Moving as a sick man in his sleep—
Three paces, and then faltering.

Unlike the dominant oracles of the War Department, who were generally wiser a thousand miles from the scene of action than the commander in the presence of the foe, General Grant, with that wisdom which intuitively perceives the wisdom of another, and the way of making it available for good, yielded to Sherman's solicitation, and the next day, November 2d, telegraphs to him: "Go on as you propose."

The evidence is not yet exhausted, but it is hardly necessary further to pile Pelion on Ossa. To every candid mind the fact that Sherman—and he alone conceived the plan of the campaign—taking his base with him, must be as apparent as any fact in history can be. But this history would not be complete without the introduction of one more extract from the official records, and one witness whose testimony cannot be questioned. As early as March 10, 1864, in reply to the letter of General Grant, already quoted from, General Sherman thus writes to his friend and commander: "From the West, when our task is done, we will make short work of Charleston and Richmond, and the impoverished coast of the Atlantic;" thus indicating, while yet in Memphis, that the thought had a lodgment in his busy brain—almost perhaps unconscious to himself. The last witness is one who, from his position, knew all the facts, and more than any other man was interested in knowing them; and his testimony is clear, emphatic, and decisive, and goes to the bottom of the subject. From the "Executive Mansion, Washington, December 26, 1864," President Lincoln, whose love of truth and justice ever irradiated a character rich in the noblest elements of greatness, thus wrote to "Dear General Sherman: When you were about leaving Atlanta for the Atlantic coast, I was anxious, if not fearful; but feeling that you were the better judge, . . . I did not interfere. Now, the undertaking being a success, the honor is all yours; for I believe none of us went further than to acquiesce." The force of demonstration can go no further, if we can rely upon human testimony for the establishment of historic truth.

This article has already grown into unexpected dimensions, and a few remarks upon the supplement to the march to the sea will bring it to a conclusion. Without that supplement, the march would have lacked the perfection that the Corinthian column would lack without its capital. I will, however, reserve what I have to say on the second part of Sherman's march for a subsequent article.

ARMY PERSONAL.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days has been granted Lieutenant-Colonel Enoch Steen, U. S. Army.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, to take effect from September 18th, has been granted the following-named officer—Brevet Major James Gillette, captain Fifteenth Infantry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply for an extension of twenty-five days, has been granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. C. Lee, assistant quartermaster U. S. A.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply for an extension of twenty days, has been granted Brevet Major-General A. McD. McCook, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-sixth Infantry.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel F. W. Benteen, Seventh Cavalry, with the two companies of the Seventh Cavalry, will accompany Major-General Sheridan, commanding Department of the Missouri, until further orders.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, based on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department of Louisiana, has been granted to Assistant Surgeon Howard Calbertson, U. S. Army.

BREVET Major Morris J. Asch, assistant surgeon U. S. A., has been ordered to proceed without delay to Fort Wallace, Kansas, under special instructions from Major-General Sheridan, commanding Department of the Missouri.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel William T. Gentry, captain Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, has been ordered to proceed to Fort Hays, Kansas, and report in person to Major-General Sheridan, commanding Department of the Missouri.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, based on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department of Louisiana, has been granted to First Lieutenant James M. Smith, Twenty-eighth Infantry.

SECOND Lieutenant Thomas J. March, Seventh U. S. Cavalry, having reported in person at Headquarters Department of the Missouri, has been ordered to proceed without delay to Fort Dodge, via Fort Hays, Kansas, to join his company.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, on surgeon's certificate, with permission to apply to Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri, for an extension of twenty days, has been granted to First Lieutenant B. S. Bassett, Seventh Cavalry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply to Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, has been granted to Major J. G. Tilford, Seventh Cavalry, brevet lieutenant-colonel U. S. Army.

BREVET Captain Charles G. Penney, adjutant Thirty-eighth Infantry, has been relieved from his present duties at Fort Craig, N. M., and will report in person for duty without delay to Brevet Major-General W. B. Hazen, colonel Thirty-eighth Infantry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General of the Army for authority to delay reporting to his regiment for five months, has been granted to Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Sheldon Sturgeon, captain First Infantry.

SECOND Lieutenant Leopold O. Parker, First Infantry, has been appointed aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Robert C. Buchanan, U. S. Army, commanding District of Louisiana, to take effect from the 16th of September, 1868, subject to the approval of the Secretary of War.

CAPTAIN Edward Byrne, Tenth Cavalry, having reported in person at Headquarters Department of the Missouri, in obedience to letter of instructions, has been ordered to proceed without delay to Fort Dodge, Kansas, and assume command of the four companies of his regiment now at that post.

FIRST Lieutenant Gregory Barrett, Jr., Twenty-sixth Infantry, has been relieved from further duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands for the State of Texas, and will proceed to join his company, serving in the sub-district of the Rio Grande. This order to take effect the 30th inst.

MAJOR M. H. Kidd, Tenth Cavalry, has been relieved from duty with the detachment of the Tenth Cavalry at Fort Dodge, Kansas. A leave of absence for twenty days, with permission to apply to Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri for an extension of thirty days, has been granted to Major Kidd. On the expiration of his leave, Major Kidd will report in person to the commanding officer District of the Indian Territory, for assignment to duty with the four companies Tenth Cavalry, at Fort Arbuckle, I. T.

CAPTAIN John A. Wilcox, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, has been ordered to proceed to Fort Union, New Mexico, and report from thence by letter to the commanding officer and chief commissary of subsistence of the District of New Mexico, to relieve First Lieutenant Francis B. Jones, Thirty-seventh U. S. Infantry, of his present duties in the commissary department at that post. Permission to delay reporting for duty twenty days has been granted him. Upon being relieved, Lieutenant Jones will report by letter to the commanding officer District of New Mexico for orders.

A MILITARY Commission was appointed to convene at Fort Clark, Texas, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Monday, the 28th day of September, 1868, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of citizens David Young and John C. Payne. Detail for the Commission: Major A. P. Morrow, Ninth Cavalry; Brevet Major John M.

Bacon, captain Ninth Cavalry; Captain Orville Burke, Forty-first Infantry; Captain Charles C. Hood, Forty-first Infantry; Captain Edward M. Heyl, Ninth Cavalry. First Lieutenant George E. Albee, Forty-first Infantry, judge-advocate.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel D. T. Kirby, captain Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, has been tried before a General Court-martial and been found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, and also of violating the forty-fifth Article of War. Captain Kirby has consequently been sentenced to be cashiered, and the President has approved the sentence of the Court.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Newport Barracks, Ky., at 10 o'clock on the 21st day of September, 1868, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may properly be brought before it. Detail for the Court: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Glover Perin, surgeon U. S. Army; Brevet Major W. R. Lowe, captain Nineteenth U. S. Infantry; Captain Nelson Thomasson, Fifth U. S. Infantry; Captain John McIntosh, Twentieth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant J. N. Danforth, Second U. S. Infantry. First Lieutenant John W. Whitten, Second U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was ordered to convene at Marshall, Texas, on Thursday, the first day of October, 1868, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such persons as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court—Brevet Brigadier-General Julius Hayden, lieutenant-colonel Fifteenth Infantry; Captain Irvin W. Potter, Fifteenth Infantry; Captain James P. Brown, Fifteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant Thomas Blair, regimental quartermaster, Fifteenth Infantry; First Lieutenant William J. Sartle, adjutant Fifteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Edmund T. Ryan, Fifteenth Infantry. First Lieutenant Edward C. Henshaw, Fifteenth Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort McKavett, Texas, on Friday, the 25th day of September, 1868, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court: Brevet Major J. V. D. Middleton, assistant surgeon U. S. A.; Brevet Major Wirt Davis, captain Fourth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant Peter M. Boehm, Fourth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant William H. Hick, Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Lewis Warrington, Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Cyrus M. DeLany, Thirty-fifth U. S. Infantry. Second Lieutenant Horace P. Sherman, Thirty-fifth U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Duncan, Texas, on Monday, the 21st day of September, 1868, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. DeGress, captain Ninth U. S. Cavalry; Brevet Captain Charles Parker, first lieutenant Ninth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant E. Donovan, Forty-first U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant James Pratt, Jr., Forty-first U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant W. W. Tyler, Ninth U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant J. L. Bullis, Forty-first U. S. Infantry. First Lieutenant F. W. Taggard, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

THE following is a list of officers reporting at Headquarters Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, for the week ending September 26, 1868: Chaplain A. G. White, U. S. A., September 15, 1868, on leave of absence; Captain John A. Wilcox, Fourth U. S. Cavalry, September 17, 1868, reporting for duty; Second Lieutenant John C. Graham, Third U. S. Cavalry, September 19, 1868, en route to regiment; Brevet Brigadier-General M. R. Morgan, major, commissary subsistence, September 18, 1868, returning from special duty; Captain Thomas W. C. Moore, brevet lieutenant-colonel, aide-de-camp, September 22, 1868, returning from special duty; Captain Benj. C. Card, brevet brigadier-general Quartermaster's Department, September 25, 1868, returning from special duty.

BREVET Brigadier-General M. R. Morgan, chief commissary of subsistence, has been ordered to proceed to St. Louis, Mo., on duty connected with his department.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Harker, Kansas, on Friday, the 2d day of October, 1868, at 10 o'clock A. M., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such prisoners as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew K. Long, captain and commissary subsistence; Surgeon B. E. Fryer, U. S. Army; Brevet Major E. A. Belger, first lieutenant Third U. S. Infantry; Captain John N. Craig, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Joseph Hale, Third U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant William F. Gardner, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry; Second Lieutenant Donald McIntosh, Seventh U. S. Cavalry. First Lieutenant J. Milton Thompson, Thirty-eighth U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

A GENERAL Court-martial was appointed to convene at Fort Concho, Texas, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Monday, the 28th inst., or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of First Lieutenant Casper H. Conrad, Thirty-fifth Infantry, and such other persons as may be properly brought before it. Detail for the Court—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel G. A. Gordon, major Fourth Cavalry; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. C. Cresson, first lieutenant Thirty-fifth Infantry; Brevet Major William M. Notson, assistant surgeon U. S. Army; Brevet Major Joseph Rendelbrook, captain Fourth Cavalry; Brevet Major James Calahan, first lieutenant Fourth Cavalry; Brevet Captain Sebastian Gunther, first lieutenant Fourth Cavalry; First Lieutenant John Murphy, Fourth Cavalry; First Lieutenant W. H. H. Crowell, Seventh Infantry. First Lieutenant Theodore J. Wint, Fourth Cavalry, judge-advocate.

FOREIGN NAVAL AND MILITARY MATTERS.

MAJOR George Vincent Fosberg, of the Bengal Staff Corps, writes to the *Engineer* in regard to the reported extraordinary effects of the Chassepot bullet. He thinks the accounts of the wounds inflicted, though perhaps exaggerated, tolerably consistent in ascribing to them a conical form. Small at the point of entrance, and greatly enlarged at the point of exit. He goes on to say:

Now even supposing the bullet to describe an increasing spiral in the body, which its high angular velocity renders all but impossible, I should be glad to know how on this assumption the fact of the wound on one side of the body being larger than that on the other can be explained. Both would in such a case be of the same size, or were there any difference at the point of exit it could be merely that due to some accidental change in the position of the axis of the bullet. The cause must, therefore, be sought elsewhere, and a little acquaintance with the effects of rifle bullets supplies it as follows: The effect is due partly, though in a very small degree, to the form of the head of the bullet, but mainly to its very high initial velocity, and is one more or less familiar to sportsmen who have been accustomed to use light bullets with heavy charges of powder. If I were to throw a 9-lb. shot on a heap of gravel it would displace such pebbles as stood directly in its road and very little more; but were that shot fired instead from a field gun it would convert half the heap into a cloud of dangerous projectiles. In the same way if a bullet be fired into a yielding substance, such as flesh, as long as the velocity does not exceed some 1,100ft. or 1,200ft. per second, it will make a way for itself, the particles yielding to give it passage and closing again behind it. But the moment this velocity reaches a certain point a new class of effects takes place. The particles are no longer able to yield with sufficient rapidity and are therefore violently torn from their position and faced forwards, involving a continually increasing area, and thus forming the conical rounds which have caused so much surprise. An ordinary Enfield bullet striking a squirrel or other small animal will often tear it to pieces and throw the limbs in various directions; were it possible to give to that bullet an infinite velocity it would assuredly do the same thing to an ox or an elephant. Let any one who feels any curiosity on this subject fit a light bullet to any rifle capable of standing heavy charges and commencing with the proportions of powder and lead known to yield the velocities to which we are accustomed, proceed by the well-known law to obtain velocities of 1,600ft., 1,700ft. or 1,800ft. per second, which are more easily to be got than is generally supposed, and he will find results as far surpassing those of the Chassepot as do these the effects generally seen. The subject is interesting in a military point of view as showing that if the bullet be lightened within certain limits in order to gain initial velocity and flatness of trajectory its effects will be at the same time rather increased than diminished in the nature of the wounds it inflicts. The contrary was formerly supposed to be the case.

THE system for converting smooth-bore guns into rifled ordnance, invented by Mr. P. M. Parsons, has recently been tested at Shoeburyness, with satisfactory results. Mr. Parsons laid his plans before the British war office nearly eight years ago, and meanwhile has conducted experiments, by order of the French Emperor, with the 6.5 calibre gun, which also are reported as having been successful. The system of Mr. Parsons which is said to promise to become a formidable opponent to that of Major Palliser, consists in introducing a reinforced tube of tough steel into the gun through its breech end (the gun being properly bored out to receive it) which is secured in its place by a strong cast iron breech screw forming the cascade of the piece. The rifling is peculiar, being formed by three ribs raised on the surface of the bore instead of grooves sunk into it; the spiral, which is uniform, makes one turn in thirty calibres, or 20 feet. The projectiles have grooves in them corresponding to the ribs, but rather wider, the bearing points being provided by brass studs planed out to fit the ribs. The gun lately tested was a 68-pounder converted into an 8-inch rifle. The test was to be the severe one of firing 1,000 rounds with 30 pound charges of powder, and 150lb. projectiles. Of these 114 rounds have already been fired at Shoeburyness, and the remainder will be fired at Woolwich.

CAPTAIN Palliser, the brother of the major, is in St. Petersburg, negotiating with the Russian government to introduce the Palliser system of guns. He has taken one or more specimen guns with him. It remains to be seen whether he will be able to strike a bargain, the military authorities, it is said, leaning greatly toward artillery of Prussian manufacture.

THE Russian screw corvette *Lion* has returned from Nicolaief, having been engaged for some time past in taking soundings in the Black Sea for a proper route for the submarine cable forming a portion of the Indo-European telegraph scheme. The soundings have been successful and in the north-east portion of the sea a safe and practicable route has been surveyed. The cable will have three insulated conductors and its outer protection will consist of a sheathing of copper strip, on the principle advocated by Messrs. Siemens, and used by them in the Mediterranean. Great progress is being made, and enormous quantities of stores forwarded to St. Petersburg for transport to Persia, via the Volga and Caspian Sea.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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The Editor of the JOURNAL will always be glad to receive, from officers, in the two services, correspondence and general communications of a character suited to its columns. It is necessary that the name of the writer should, in all cases, accompany his communications, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

Officers are especially requested to give us early notification of all personal matters of general interest; of the movement of vessels and troops and of all military and naval events.

In directing a change in the address of a paper, care should be taken to give the previous address.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications addressed to the JOURNAL.

The postage on the JOURNAL is twenty-five cents a year, payable quarterly, in advance, at the office where received.

Subscribers who purpose binding their volumes at the end of the year, should be careful to preserve their files of the paper, as we no longer stereotype the paper, and are not able, therefore, to supply all of the back numbers of this volume.

The subscription price of THE ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL is SIX DOLLARS a year, or THREE DOLLARS for six months, invariably in advance. Remittances may be made in United States funds, or Quartermaster's, Paymaster's, or other drafts, which should be made payable to the order of the Proprietors, W. C. & F. P. CHURCH.

THE MARCH TO THE SEA.

A CORRESPONDENT contributes to another column of the JOURNAL some very interesting facts and comments regarding the initiation of the famous military movement already known in history as "SHERMAN'S March to the Sea." To him and to others who may have anything to say upon the question, we shall leave the task of bringing to light the real solution of the question regarding its conception. This and all the great marches and battles of the war have, in one sense, to be marched and fought over again in retrospect, so that we may learn their lessons, and rightly assign their laurels.

At the very opening of SHERMAN'S famous march, in the autumn of 1864, we took occasion to point out that some movement had become a necessity. We reckoned up the length of his line of communication, which extended not only from Atlanta to Chattanooga, but from Chattanooga to Knoxville, to Nashville—nay, to Louisville and Cincinnati; and with this enormously protracted line, embracing many hundred miles, we compared the quantity of SHERMAN'S force, mainly massed at its southernmost extremity. It was obvious that he could not be sure of keeping open his communications against an adroit and powerful enemy bent on breaking them. Moreover, the enemy happened to be especially strong in cavalry, having FORREST'S admirable body of horsemen, under the command of that famous trooper himself. To attempt to guard this long line would have so crippled SHERMAN'S Army at Atlanta as to make its onward course perilous.

The great credit of SHERMAN is that he grasped the situation in an instant, and made himself its master. Where another man might have suddenly started in trepidation at becoming conscious of his distance from his base of supplies, and might have been overcome by the fancy that he had been *toiled down*, as it were, for the purpose of easy surrounding and capture, SHERMAN determined to lose no jot or tittle of his advantage. He knew he had won a great victory in winning Atlanta, and he determined to improve it. That there was nothing more to be done at Atlanta was evident; but SHERMAN'S praise is that, whereas another might have marched backward, he marched forward. He had no intention of emulating the illustrious example of the King of France, who, with twice ten thousand men, "marched up a hill, and then marched down again"—or, rather, when he marched down, it was on the further side of the ascent—downward to the sea.

SHERMAN having determined to go forward, the mode of doing so was characteristic of the man. That his movements were precipitated and his conceptions assisted by HOOD'S fatuity, is unquestionable. Still, this detracts nothing from his praise, since it is still more creditable to have organized with speed so remarkable an expedition, so splendidly appointed and complete in all details as its victorious progress proved it to be, with an enemy harassing at every step. HOOD'S first movements (had he not reckoned without his host) would have been excellent—they were excellent in

this, that they did actually break SHERMAN'S line of supplies, as, of course, they could hardly help doing, and might have interrupted his communications much more seriously, provided HOOD'S head had not been filled with a project of a grand campaign against Nashville. But though he broke SHERMAN'S line of supplies, HOOD did not break that General's self-reliance, or shake him from his equipoise. He pursued his plan independent of HOOD, and this obstinate, but clear-headed and intelligent action of SHERMAN is another great praise of SHERMAN.

When all had been adjusted, when SHERMAN had arranged with THOMAS to take care of HOOD, he burned Atlanta and plunged into Georgia on his "holiday march." The heaviest part of the work had indeed been left to THOMAS; but of necessity. Had SHERMAN taken his whole force backward to Nashville, whither he had sent back the Fourth Corps, it would have been construed as a retreat, and an immense advantage of morale would have resulted to the Confederacy. The popular mind, both North and South, would have failed to see that the substantial evacuation of Georgia had become a necessity; the people would not have noted even the retention of garrisons at Atlanta, Allatoona, Dalton, Chattanooga, and so forth, had the Twentieth Corps or other forces been left for that purpose. Everybody would have said that, whereas SHERMAN in May was at least at Ringgold, October found him back in the neighborhood of Nashville, or guarding the line of the Tennessee. It was needful to go forward—it nothing else could be obtained, the balance of prestige would still be kept with the victorious Union columns. It was needful, too, that this body should be so formidable as not to be mistaken for the mere diversion of an expeditionary force. Finally, it was needful that SHERMAN himself should command this advancing body—and fortunate he was in having a thorough soldier, one of the foremost officers of the age, to leave for the work behind.

He was fortunate, too, in having HOOD instead of JOHNSTON to take care of. HOOD, being a man after JEFF DAVIS'S own heart, was therefore a much easier opponent to take care of than the skilful JOHNSTON. Almost everything favored SHERMAN, at this time, and even HOOD'S bold stroke in the rear was turned to account in this respect, that it confirmed the enemy in the plan of going into Tennessee, and made it apparent to SHERMAN and all his other commanders that to labor at keeping open that line was only playing second fiddle to HOOD. SHERMAN'S remarkable talent for organizing and equipping a command, and putting it into good shape for quick maneuvering, never came into better play than now. It enabled him to get ready his force before HOOD had prepared his. Had HOOD turned back at any time—say, for example, while the two armies were respectively at Gadsden and Gaylesville—there might never have been a march to the sea, or, at least, not of the sort which SHERMAN made.

The execution of this famous march was, of course, not less brilliant than its conception. The mechanism wherewith the columns advanced, the well-calculated dispositions and moves of SHERMAN, by which times and spaces were better mastered than in a peaceful field review, the world knows by heart. Some examples there had been in recent history of a movable column; but nothing compared with this. Something approximating to it, if we remember aright, may be detected in NAPOLEON'S first Italian campaign. The English advance in the Crimea, as we have before pointed out, has something of the same nature, except that the troops were in constant communication with their ships, which advanced *pari passu*. SHERMAN himself had had a little "prentice work"—"to get his hand in"—of the same sort the previous year, in his expedition across Mississippi. But here was a case entirely different—that of a very large and complete Army, embracing all three arms, and fully equipped with trains and ammunition, making a march of hundreds of miles through an enemy's country, with the objective a fortified coastwise city, requiring reduction after the toils of the march before the object of the campaign could be accomplished.

And this was what SHERMAN did accomplish—

all that he designed to do. Hood being in due time defeated at Nashville, according to the programme, and SHERMAN presenting, as the JOURNAL had the pleasure of suggesting that he would, "Savannah as a Christmas gift to the nation."

THE SPANISH REVOLUTION.

THERE is little to add to the account we gave last week of the revolution in Spain. The mail and the telegraph furnish but few additional details, and nothing which calls for any modification of our previous description.

The Revolutionary Committee, in their first published bulletin, state that a steamer left Cadiz on the 8th inst., to fetch the generals exiled at the Canaries. Two days before, another steamer sailed from England, having on board General PRIM and his staff. PRIM sailed for Cadiz, where the fleet expected him. He summoned on board one of the war ships all the generals who, with the sailors, uttered the first cry of liberty, which was at once reported at Cadiz and San Fernando. Having taken possession of those important places, the sailors cut the telegraphic communication with Madrid. The news of their rising called to their assistance the population of Seville, with the whole garrison. Malaga, Grenada, Xeres, the whole of Andalusia followed. All was accomplished without effusion of blood, without opposition, for there was not to be found a single Spaniard prompted to dishonor himself by fighting for what the whole nation despised.

Another account states that on the 17th, at the break of day, the four frigates in the port of Cadiz, the *Zingaro*, the *Tetuan*, the *Ville de Madrid* and *Isabella II.*, wooden ships of the line, under the orders of Admiral TOPETE, prepared for action. The two battalions of marines, forming part of the garrison, supported this movement. One of them took up a position on the Cortoduro, or roadway, which connects the rock of Cadiz with the land; the other battalion occupied the station of the Xeres Railway, and thus made themselves masters of the communication with Seville. The Governor, with much indignation, refused to negotiate until he saw plainly that the soldiers were hesitating how to act; and two bombs fired upon the town, one after the other, sufficiently demonstrated the intention of the insurgents. Then he yielded.

The march of the revolutionary forces from Seville to the capital was attended with but a feeble show of opposition; and on the 3d of October, Marshal SERRANO, accompanied by seven generals of the army, entered Madrid, where he was received by the people with wild enthusiasm.

A provisional government was promptly organized, and proclamations issued for elections to be held throughout the kingdom to chose members of a Definitive Junta, and delegates to a National Assembly to meet at an early day in Madrid. Meanwhile, as the telegraph informs us, the Provisional Junta will declare the partial abolition of slavery, freeing the children of the blacks in anticipation of the total abolition of slavery in the colonies by the Cortes.

The revolution in favor of popular government, has thus passed successfully through the first stage of its progress. But the most difficult task is yet before it, in the organization of a new government which shall unite the necessary elements of stability and popularity. The different parties in Spain have been temporarily united by the instinct of common opposition to a corrupt and tyrannical rule. It remains to be seen whether their union will prove strong enough to resist the temptations of success.

THE fall inspections of the National Guard regiments of New York commenced on Monday, and will be continued almost uninterruptedly throughout the month. The returns will, as a general thing, show a slight decrease in numbers compared with those of last year, but not more than is natural from the expiration of the time of those who enlisted in 1861. The regiments which were organized during the excitement incident upon the outbreak of hostilities will be the heaviest losers by the discharge of these '61 men, but none of them, so far as we can learn, will be seriously injured thereby, as many young men are still joining

the various regiments, although recruiting is by no means brisk just now. It is claimed by some that if the annual inspections were made in the spring instead of in the fall, the result would be a larger number present, and that the regiments would also be able to make a better appearance. This is all true enough, but still there are good reasons for continuing to hold the inspections in the fall as at present. One of the besetting sins of citizen soldiers, as we see them in this country, is a disposition to over-estimate their own proficiency in drill and discipline, and it generally does them good to be made aware that they are not entirely above criticism—a fact which they are sure to appreciate at a fall inspection.

There are, also, regiments which are not overfond of drilling, and are not excessively proficient in military movements, which they might forget when the drill season commenced, if the recurrence of the annual inspection did not serve to jog their memory regarding it. Again, when an officer enters upon a new command, one of his first acts is to inspect it in order to inform himself of its condition; and so it is eminently proper that each drill season should be opened by a thorough inspection of the forces of the State.

It is not, however, now necessary to go into an extended argument on this subject, as discussion cannot work any change for this year at least, as, according to law, these inspections must be held between the first day of May and the first day of November of each year. It only remains for us on this the beginning of the military year, to tender to our National Guard readers all the compliments of the opening drill season.

THE smothered embers of war seem ready to burst into flame in Europe. It is not so much the actual fighting on the Danube or the great revolution in Spain that gives portent of a continental struggle, as the menacing condition of affairs on the Rhine, where "all is quiet." NAPOLEON III. and WILLIAM of Prussia busy themselves in crying "Peace, peace," when, apparently, peace there is none. NAPOLEON has thrice, of late, given pacific assurances, and the third time declared "I will say no more, since whatever I might say, the Press would construe it as predicting war." King WILLIAM makes a speech, intending it to be pacific, and is straightway forced to make another, showing that it was not warlike. You cannot possibly stop the popular belief that war is certain. They report 80,000 French soldiers are to be sent home on furlough—it is laughed at. Prussia dismisses from her ranks 120,000 men—it is received with incredulity. Why is so large an army maintained by France? Why does Prussia continue her intrigues with the South German States? These are the questions men ask.

From brooding on the possibility of war, both France and Prussia seem at last to have become peevishly anxious for it; for, it is a law of human nature—paradoxical as it seems—that that which is at first contemplated with horror lest it happen, being so long before the vision that it seems to have become inevitable, is then hurriedly urged on, that it may be borne and then got rid of as soon as possible. It is odd, now, to find journalists discounting what will happen after the war. Even the prudent *Pull Mall Gazette*, that rarely gets caught, thinks war probable before January. What keeps NAPOLEON reviewing his camps and King WILLIAM praising the prospective valor of his subjects? Why does the Brussels Congress of Workingmen spend most of its time in talking about war? Then, on one flank of Imperial France are rumors of a sort of Bund of Holland and Belgium, under French auspices; on the other, a French protectorate over Spain. Russia has not forsown her designs on the Danube; Austria remembers Sadowa as France remembers Waterloo; Greece and Crete maintain against Turkey the undying hate of Cross to Crescent; Italy, like many another bankrupt, could be tempted to drown her troubles in drunkenness—the drunkenness of blood. Even England, with Russia marching upon Constantinople, could not lock herself up in her island, under pretence of being "an Asiatic power." The whole Continent seems to be on the verge of war.

A CORRESPONDENT of the London *Engineer* writes an incomprehensible letter in defence of Mr. Isherwood's engines, and signs himself "A Voice from the Old World"—it is the only voice we have yet heard in praise of our great engineer. The editor makes this, and only this, sententious comment on the communication—*Vox et preterea nihil*. The same correspondent, manifestly, appears also in *Engineering*, where he signs himself "John G. Winton," and writing in the same opaque style. The editor here takes the pains to briefly refute some of his absurdities, commencing by saying: "The above letter will, no doubt, amuse many of our readers; but we fear it will not discomfort those who find fault with Mr. Isherwood's engines, nor do we think that it will even afford much solace to Mr. Isherwood himself."

A REVISED code of regulations has been promulgated at Chatham for the guidance of all persons employed on receiving vessels for gunpowder and ammunition, and in laboratory craft used for the conveyance of the same from the receiving-vessels. The regulations direct that all persons employed in the receiving vessels, barges, boats and magazines are to change their outer clothing—viz.: coat, waistcoat, trousers, cap, and shoes, and wear the suits specially provided for them. The change of clothes is ordered to be made in a shifting-house specially provided, where the ordinary clothes will be deposited. Smoking is strictly prohibited, and any man found with a lucifer match in his possession will be instantly dismissed. No fire is, on any account, to be allowed on board any of the receiving vessels, barges or boats, all of which are to be kept scrupulously clean and free from loose gunpowder. In shipping or unshipping ammunition or gunpowder, tanned hides or wadmiltits are to be laid over that portion of the vessel over which the cases or barrels pass, and a red flag is to be kept flying when there is any gunpowder or ammunition on board the receiving vessels.

WE alluded, a few weeks ago, to an article in the London *Army and Navy Gazette* on the lamentable increase in gambling in the British Army with its consequent evil of harassing debt. The article, we find, has called out two letters from army officers, one of whom acknowledges that "a great number of officers in Africa, India, and China have left the service through debt, but says it was debt incurred, not by gambling, but in consequence of insufficient pay. On the contrary, the other says: "Everything you bring forward can be corroborated by any one living in our principal camps or garrisons at home. Regiments appear to be going ahead too fast, though exceptions there are, of course. Officers' wine bills are out of all proportion to their pay, and the expense of mess entertainments fails very heavy on all. The borrowing of money on the value of the regimental commission appears to follow as an inevitable necessity, after parents and friends have paid up all they can afford to give. This is certainly an argument against the purchase system, for we do not find retirements going at the ratio in the non-purchase corps."

UPON the assembling of the court of inquiry to investigate the charges against Brevet Major-General A. B. DYER, he will be relieved from the charge of the ordnance bureau until the conclusion of the investigation. Brevet Colonel S. V. BENET of the ordnance department has been ordered to report to General DYER to assist him while before the court of inquiry.

THE memorial statue of Major-General JOHN SEDGWICK is now completed, and will be dedicated at West Point, on Wednesday, October 21st, with appropriate ceremonies. We publish elsewhere in this issue, a card from the committee having the matter in charge. It is desired that as many of the members of the old Sixth Corps as possible shall be present at the dedication.

UNDER the title of "The Story of a Hero," "The Galaxy" for November will contain a very interesting sketch of the late Rear-Admiral BELL. The article will include a number of letters written by the Admiral while on the *Hartford*, to his little son, which are quoted as touching evidences of tender paternal affection and lofty patriotic devotion.

A CORRESPONDENT informs us that on September 5th, at Fort Yuma, Cal., the thermometer at 2 o'clock P. M. indicated 110 degrees above zero, and 97 degrees at 9 o'clock P. M.

THE bark *Torrent*, having on board Battery F, Second Artillery, was totally lost in Cook's Inlet, Alaska, on the 15th of July last. All hands, however, were saved.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS ISSUED FROM THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 5, 1868.

Tuesday, September 29th.

Brevet Major Evan Thomas, Fourth U. S. Artillery, will report in person, without delay, to Brevet Major-General L. Thomas, adjutant-general of the Army, to accompany him in his inspections of the cemeteries at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Antietam, Maryland. On completion of this duty he will return to his proper station.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Brigadier-General James C. Duane, lieutenant-colonel Corps of Engineers, is hereby detailed as engineer of the First Light-house District in addition to his present duties.

Upon the recommendation of the quartermaster-general, Brevet Major L. C. Forsyth, assistant quartermaster, will be relieved from duty at Vicksburg, Mississippi, by an officer to be designated by the commanding general of the district in which he is serving, and will proceed at once to Fort Dodge, Kansas, for assignment to duty at that post, reporting by letter to the commanding general and to the chief quartermaster Department of the Missouri for orders.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Isaac O. Shelby, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 190, September 14, 1868, from Headquarters Fourth Military District, is hereby extended thirty days.

The telegraphic order of the 28th instant, from this office, directing the superintendent mounted recruiting service, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, to forward all disposable recruits to Fort Harker, Kansas, to be reported to Major-General Sheridan, for assignment, is hereby confirmed.

Upon the mutual application of the officers concerned, the following transfers in the Fifth U. S. Artillery are hereby announced, to take effect October 15, 1868: First Lieutenant Benjamin K. Roberts, from Company A to Company M; First Lieutenant George W. Crabb (brevet captain), from Company M to Company A.

The telegraphic order of the 28th inst., from this office, granting Captain E. D. Ellsworth, military storekeeper Ordnance Department, leave of absence for thirty days, from September 29, 1868, is hereby confirmed.

A Board of Examination having found First Lieutenant Walter F. Halleck, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, "incapacitated for active service, and that said incapacity resulted from impaired vision consequent upon a wound of left eye, received in battle of Stone River, December 31, 1863, when a private in the Eleventh regiment Michigan Volunteers, and existed before he was commissioned in the Army," the President directs that he be retired from service with pay proper alone, in accordance with section 17 of the act approved August 3, 1861.

By direction of the President, paragraph 3 of Special Orders No. 467, October 12, 1867, from this office, retiring First Lieutenant Charles P. Miller, Seventh U. S. Infantry, with one year's pay and allowances, is hereby revoked, and his name will be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the disability results from long and faithful service or some injury incident thereto, in accordance with section 16 of the act approved August 3, 1861.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Major Thomas S. Allison, paymaster, will at once repair to New York City and report for examination to Brevet Major-General Cooke, president of the Retiring Board, convened by Special Orders No. 449, September 21, 1867, from this office.

Wednesday, September 30th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for six months, with permission to go beyond the limits of the United States, is hereby granted First Lieutenant J. F. Small, First U. S. Cavalry, to take effect when another officer joins his company.

Brevet Major H. W. Smith, second lieutenant Third U. S. Cavalry, is hereby relieved from duty in this city and will proceed, without delay, to join his company in the Department of the Missouri.

Permission to delay compliance with so much of Special Orders No. 235, September 19, 1868, from this office, as directed him to report to the commanding general and to the medical director, Fifth Military District, for assignment to duty, is hereby granted Assistant Surgeon Daniel Weisel, until October 15, 1868.

By direction of the Secretary of War, permission to visit Chihuahua, Mexico, during the months October or November next, is hereby granted Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. Howe Watts, additional paymaster of Volunteers, provided he is not absent from his pay district to exceed thirty days.

The resignation of Captain Robertson S. Fergus, Thirty-second U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect September 30, 1868, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the pay department that he is not indebted to the United States.

The leave of absence granted Post Chaplain Charles Reynolds, in Special Orders No. 178, September 10, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby extended forty days.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant Edward Simonton (now brevet captain) Fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 135, August 17, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended three months.

Leave of absence for thirty days is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Edward M. Wright, Ordnance Department.

The extension of leave of absence granted Brevet Captain Alexander Wishart, first lieutenant Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 219, September 12, 1868, from this office, is hereby further extended until November 10, 1868.

Leave of absence for six months, to take effect at such time as in the judgment of the commanding officer of the District of Montana the exigencies of the service

will permit, is hereby granted Brevet Major Joseph L. Horr, captain Thirtieth U. S. Infantry.

Upon the recommendation of the chief of ordnance, the following changes in the stations of officers of the ordnance department are hereby made. Their movements will be regulated by special instructions from the chief of their department: Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel S. C. Lyford, captain, from St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri, to Charleston Arsenal, South Carolina; Brevet Major F. H. Parker, captain, from Charleston Arsenal, South Carolina, to Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois; Captain Morris Schaff, from Watertown Arsenal, Massachusetts, to Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois; Brevet Captain M. L. Poland, first lieutenant, from Fort Monroe Arsenal, Virginia, to Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois; Brevet Captain George D. Ramsey, Jr., first lieutenant, from Frankford Arsenal, Pennsylvania, to Alleghany Arsenal, Pennsylvania; Second Lieutenant J. C. Clifford, from Fort Monroe Arsenal, Virginia, to St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri.

Upon the receipt of this order, Philip R. R. M. Sattes will proceed to Florence, South Carolina, and assume charge of the National Cemetery at that place, of which he has been appointed superintendent.

Thursday, October 1st.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Edward J. Smith, Twenty-second U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect September 30, 1868, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

By direction of the Secretary of War, paragraph 24, of Special Orders No. 193, August 13, 1867, from this office, extending for four months the leave of absence granted Brevet Captain Mason Howard, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 148, July 31, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby revoked, and the following substituted: Permission to delay joining his regiment for four months, from the expiration of the leave of absence granted him in Special Orders No. 148, July 31, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Missouri, is hereby granted Brevet Captain Mason Howard, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Infantry.

Friday, October 2d.

Colonel H. W. Freedley, U. S. Army (retired), is hereby authorized to draw commutation of quarters and fuel as major Fourteenth U. S. Infantry, from April 23, 1868, to June 24, 1868, inclusive, while awaiting in the city of San Francisco, Cal., the result of his application to appear before the Retiring Board.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of General Orders No. 30, September 10, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the Columbia, as announced the following named officers as aides-de-camp to the brevet major-general commanding, to date from July 28, 1868, is hereby confirmed: Captain A. H. Nickerson, Twenty-third U. S. Infantry; Brevet Captain George Williams, first lieutenant U. S. Army (retired).

Leave of absence for thirty days on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of his district, is hereby granted Brevet Captain H. F. Brewerton, first lieutenant Fifth U. S. Artillery.

Saturday, October 3d.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability granted Captain Oscar Hagen, Eleventh U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 166, September 2, 1868, from Headquarters First Military District, is hereby extended ten days.

The leave of absence on surgeon's certificate of disability, granted Brevet Major Thomas H. Norton, captain Twenty-fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 175, August 27, 1868, from Headquarters Fourth Military District, is hereby extended forty days on surgeon's certificate of disability.

Leave of absence for twenty days on surgeon's certificate of disability, is hereby granted Brevet Major Wallace F. Randolph, captain Fifth U. S. Artillery, with permission to go beyond the limits of his district.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant Andrew J. Kelley, Thirty-third U. S. Infantry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect October 2, 1868, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

The leave of absence granted First Lieutenant W. T. Dodge, Seventh U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 34, September 9, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the South, is hereby extended ten days.

Monday, October 5th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for six months, for the benefit of his health, with permission to visit Europe, is hereby granted Brevet Brigadier-General D. B. McKibbin, major Tenth U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major-General George H. Crosmen, colonel U. S. Army (retired), will make such inspections in the State of Georgia as may be indicated to him in letter of instructions by the Quartermaster-General.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Second Lieutenant E. C. Bartlett, Second U. S. Cavalry, will proceed without delay to join his regiment in the Department of the Platte.

The commanding officer Little Rock, Arkansas, will order James Hill, superintendent of the National Cemetery at that post, to proceed to Omaha, Nebraska, and report to Brevet Colonel Lewis Merrill, captain Second U. S. Cavalry, as a witness before a General Court-martial at Fort D. A. Russell, Dakota Territory, on the 12th instant. On the completion of this duty he will be ordered to return to his station.

MAJOR-GENERAL Halleck and staff have returned from a tour of inspection in Alaska.

BREVEV Major-General George Crook has assumed command of the Department of the Columbia.

GEARED MARINE ENGINES.

(From the London Engineer, Sept. 18, 1868.)

THE fact that a particular system of construction has been adopted by an engineer holding an eminent position, will lend it an importance which it may not otherwise deserve. Thus, when we find the chief engineer of the United States Navy reviving the use of geared marine engines years after they have been rejected by all other engineers, we are disposed to ask what he can find in the system to render it worthy of adoption; and to inquire of ourselves whether it is possible that English engineers have rejected geared engines without duly weighing their merits. Mr. Isherwood's position must plead our excuse for re-opening a question apparently long since settled. The construction of a pair of geared engines by a second-rate British or French firm we should have regarded as a matter of no importance whatever, as an experiment, in fact, which would lead to no good results, and therefore exerting no claim on our attention or on that of our readers. But Mr. Isherwood represents the engineering ability of a great naval power; and his engines are constructed on too large a scale, and with too much pretension, to be regarded in the light of insignificant experiments. If Mr. Isherwood is right in his views, then all other marine engineers are wrong. If he is mistaken, then his mistake is more serious in its results than that of any engineer who has yet supplied engines to a fleet of war steamers. There is no escape from this position, and we have little doubt that the chief engineer of the United States Navy recognizes the dilemma in which he is placed. He is on trial at the bar of engineering opinion, and we think that no hesitation can be felt as to what the verdict must be.

The advantages claimed for the geared marine engine in bygone days, were that with a given speed of engine a finer pitched screw could be used than with direct-acting engines; that the machinery, running slower, would last longer and cost less for repairs; and that it was easier to drive the air pump. Some minor points were perhaps urged in favor of gearing, but if so we have forgotten them. It is now understood that fine pitch screws possess no particular advantage over those which are coarser, but rather the reverse, especially in the case of ships which have fixed propellers, because the fine pitch screws require more force to cause them to revolve when being dragged through the water. It is also known that the largest engines which have ever been made have been driven with safety and ease at sixty-five revolutions per minute—quite fast enough for any screw; that these engines are not in any particular hurry to wear out, while they manifest a great objection to breaking down; and, finally, that as regards the air pump, it may be driven with great ease as fast as the steam pistons, provided india rubber valves are used.

Against the employment of gearing on board ship so much may be said that we hardly know where to begin. A geared engine must necessarily be heavier than an ungeared engine by the weight of the cog-wheels and counter shaft, even if we suppose it to run very fast; and when gearing is used, as it always is, to keep down piston speed, the engine must be heavier in some direct ratio to the reduction in the number of revolutions made by it per minute. Again, under no possible circumstances can a geared engine occupy as little space as a direct acting engine of the same power. The piston speed being small, the cylinders must be large, unless expansion is abandoned; and in any case the machinery must be larger by all the room taken up by the geared wheels. We shall say nothing of the noise, dirt, and increased risk of accident, inseparable from cog-wheels. It will be seen that we sum up heavily against geared screw engines; yet could we call to mind a single argument in their favor worth attention we should produce it now, and force it home, too, with all our power on the minds of our readers. If any one of them can say a good word for the system, or bring forward a fact in its favor, we trust he will not hold his peace. Mr. Isherwood needs all the support he can get. We have frequently criticised the policy he pursued in the construction of the *Wampanoag*, and her engines have been loudly condemned on the other side of the Atlantic. At last, three commodores in the United States Navy were appointed to examine, try, and report on the ship, but the examination as it happened was little better than a farce. The ship was not ready for the commodores, had not coal enough on board for a good run, had new brasses just put into her principal bearings, met with foggy weather, which prevented her speed being tested save in a spurt of short duration, etc., etc. Two of the commodores reported favorably—the third commodore, James Alden, dead against her. As a result, Mr. Isherwood has defended himself at great length in a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Navy last May, and since published in the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* of New York.

Mr. Isherwood's letter begins with some very tall writing about the deeds to be accomplished by the new war steamers of which the *Wampanoag* is the first. The following extract will afford a fair specimen of Mr. Isherwood's style: "It was proposed to construct a vessel having a greater speed by several miles per hour than any other ocean steamer; which should be able to go to the British coast in case of hostilities, and burn, sink, and destroy every vessel of inferior force, naval or merchant, that might be found there. Nothing she pursued could escape her, and nothing she fled from could overtake her. The more heavily armed but slower cruisers of the enemy could only follow her by the flames of the burning wrecks she left behind her. She would obtain a plentiful supply of coal, water, provisions, and other stores from her prizes for an indefinite length of cruising, and would neutralize the large number of naval steamers required to form a cordon around the British coast for the protection of its commerce from her depredations. Her speed would enable her to enter and leave any port despite the most vigilant blockade. In fact, the destruction made of the enemy's resources, and the military advantages of breaking up his communications and obtaining the quickest intelligence of his movements due to the employment of one such vessel are incalculable."

In compliance with these intentions the *Wampanoag* was built, and it is agreed by every one save Mr. Isherwood that she is one of the sharpest and most beautiful vessels ever launched. To admit this would detract from the merits of his engines; therefore Mr. Isherwood asserts that the ship is not sharper than the old U. S. frigates *Roanoke* and, and *Colorado* he sets about proving this by stating that the ratio of the displacement of the immersed solid of the *Wampanoag* is to its circumscribing parallelogram as unity is to 6566, while in the old frigates we have named the ratio was as 0.573. Naval architects will agree with us in regarding this attempted proof as a stupendous absurdity, inasmuch as it takes no account whatever of the character of the ship's lines forward or aft, as is proved by the fact that both the *Colorado* and *Roanoke* were as Dutch tubs compared with the *Wampanoag*.

Mr. Isherwood explains that the great length occupied by his machinery is due to the shallowness of the ship and her narrow beam, which last reduced the depth of her boilers. The engines and boilers of the *Wampanoag* occupy, according to Mr. Isherwood, 148 ft. of the length of the ship. As the ship was shallow and narrow, any one possessing a sense of mechanical truth would have perceived the necessity for keeping the engines as short as possible, instead of spreading them out in a hull already too small. If direct acting engines had been used the cylinders would have been placed close together at one side of the shaft, and the condensers at the other side opposite them. But with geared engines this arrangement becomes inadmissible. In the place where the condensers should have stood is located a compound cogged wheel, 13 ft. long on the face; nor is this all. The crank shaft carrying this wheel has four bearings, two at each end with a double crank between, and the ends of the crank shaft are prolonged to carry the eccentrics. The whole length of the shaft, and consequently of the engines, is thus brought up to about 52 ft. The surface condensers are placed between the cylinders, and the valve chests outside them. Had direct acting engines been used they need not have occupied more than 20 ft. of the length of the ship, thus saving not less than 32 ft. of most valuable space in the engine room alone. It was, in short, impossible to select a type of engine more wasteful of space, and strangely enough Mr. Isherwood vouchsafes not a single word of explanation as to his reasons for adopting it. We supply the omission by stating that, in direct opposition to all other engineers, Mr. Isherwood believes that small measures of expansion and low piston speeds are eminently conducive to economy, and the first could not readily be had with direct acting machinery. It would be out of place here to say much regarding the arrangement of the *Wampanoag* boilers, which is nearly as bad as that of the engines, because, we are told, the ship was too shallow to permit any other being adopted. Seeing that the *Wampanoag* has two decks, is 23 ft. 6 in. deep and draws 19 ft. of water we think this objection of very little weight. There was nothing, indeed, to prevent the superheating apparatus being fitted at the base of the funnels instead of occupying an additional length of 16 ft. in the ship.

Although we have neither criticised nor described the *Wampanoag* very fully here, we have said sufficient, we think, to prove that the adoption of geared engines in her case has been a great mistake. After having been disused for years, we find the system revived on the largest scale, under the best auspices, and aided by the most modern developments of the engineer's art. The result is unquestionably utter failure. Even though we admitted that the ship was the fastest steamer afloat—and she is not—the fact would not in the slightest degree affect the question. With smaller, lighter, and shorter engines a greater power could have been, and has been, developed. In such a ship as the *Wampanoag* it was of the utmost importance to keep the weight of the machinery and the space occupied as small as possible, and just in so far as Mr. Isherwood has failed to comply with this demand he has failed to prove that he is a competent engineer. It is not likely that even in the States many, if any, more screw geared engines will be built. Mr. Isherwood has given the system its death-blow by showing how impossible it is to obviate its defects by any expenditure of time or money.

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.

The telegraph, in some form, for the immediate conveyance of intelligence from one distant station to another, has probably been used wherever towers, masts, or camps existed. *Æschylus* opens his tragedy of *Agamemnon*, with a sentinel gazing anxiously for

The blazing torch, whose flame brings news from Troy,
The signal of its ruin.

And it is afterward distinctly narrated that these tidings were conveyed by land-beacons from Mount Ida to the Island of Lemnos; from thence to "sacred Athos;" whence, by various stations, over the gulfs and promontories of Greece, they were carried to Arachne, a hill above Argos, and, consequently, into the very palace of Clytemnestra.

From the remotest ages, and amid the most barbarous nations, fire by night, and smoke by day, the most obvious and general means of alarm, have been resorted to, as the announcement of hostile approaches. When the Chinese Mandarins travel, signals are made by these means, from one day's station to another, in order that proper arrangements may be made for their accommodation. And in Madagascar, New Holland, and Africa the arrival of a stranger is thus circulated. But the "pyrrhic," or fire-beacons, of the Greeks and Romans, were of a more organized character, and according to Polybius, were even capable of expressing the letters of the alphabet.

With the Greeks the order for commencing a battle at sea, was by hanging out a gilded shield on the admiral's galley; during its elevation, the fight was to continue; as it inclined toward the right or left, the other ships directed their movements; and the combat ceased with its depression. Even the more modern mode of conference, by flags, James II. is said to have carried to a systematic extent.

Military ensigns were usually devices elevated upon spears, which being distinguishable at a distance, gave facility to the manoeuvres of troops. The Persians used purple robes, shields, and emblems of metal, as distinguishing characteristics. Those of the Greeks were flags, emblazoned with symbols of the particular States to which they belonged. At the attack on the palace of Amulius, the partisans of Romulus had no other ensigns than bundles of hay, suspended on long poles. With the prosperity of the Romans, the magnificence of their warlike array increased; and though the "Manipuli," in grateful remembrance, were ever after held in the highest esteem, their other distinctions were both varied and expressive. Thus, the "Signiferi," bore on a pike, a hand stretched out, as a symbol of concord; the "Aquiliferi" displayed an eagle with expanded wings; and the "Draconarii" carried a dragon. But the principle imperial ensign was the Labarum. This sacred charge was borne and guarded by a select body of "Labariferi," before the Emperor, whenever he took the field in person. The Labarum consisted of a purple streamer, bordered with gold lace, and bedecked with costly jewels; it was attached to a staff, which crossed the head of a pike at right angles, and, till the time of Constantine, was embroidered with an eagle; but that pious prince introduced the mystic monogram of our Saviour in its stead.

From the time of Noah, the ancients appear to have appreciated the value of the genus *Columba*; for carrier-pigeons seem to have been used immemorially in Persia, Syria, Egypt and Greece.

According to the testimony of Pliny, swallows were also employed with a similar intent. He says that Cincinnatus, or Volaterra, a proprietor of race-horses, was wont to bring into a city a number of those birds, which he took from their nests at the houses of his various friends. On gaining any advantage, he painted them of a concerted color, and thus let them fly home with tidings of the victory. Fabius Pictor reports, that a besieged Roman garrison, which he was endeavoring to relieve, took a swallow from her young ones, and requested him to signify, by knots of a piece of twine tied to the bird's leg, how many days would pass before he could aid them, in order that they might also, on the same day, sally forth.

The Arabians were renowned for their perfection of speedy intelligence, and while they occupied Spain, they erected watch-turrets on the summits of all the remarkable hills under the name of "Atalayas," a word still retained by the Spaniards for the same object. They also resorted to the use of winged messengers, dromedaries, and horses. Their first regular post pigeons were brought for Ibn Rankil, the Fatemite Caliph, in 565, from Mosul, on the Tigris, the supposed ancient Nineveh. These useful birds traversed the whole space between the north of Syria and Assuan in Upper Egypt, and their different resting places, as well as the whole system of their management, are carefully noted in some of the select manuscripts. When the very utmost expedition was necessary, the Caliphs had resource to smoke by day, and flame by night, at regular establishments, reaching from the Euphrates to Cairo.

Messenger-pigeons were also employed till within the last hundred years, by the merchants of Aleppo and Alexandretta, to convey commercial arcana, and they have elsewhere been made the agents of deceit, in carrying the winning numbers of a lottery before they could be supposed to be known. At the siege of Leyden, in 1753, they proved of such material service, that the inhabitants fed them at the public expense, and after their deaths, embalmed them for preservation in the town hall.

Intelligence was moreover widely and rapidly disseminated, by men who had been well trained for exercise, and we are assured, by writers of credit, that the "hemerodromi," or foot couriers of antiquity, could actually run thirty leagues in a day, or even more. Plutarch seems to ascribe the early news of the defeat of Persens, in Rome, to the influence of supernatural agency, though according to Livy's more credible narrative of the fact, the herald was thirteen days from Macedonia. The messengers of Barbary will travel long journeys at the continued rate of nearly forty miles a day, in all seasons, with scarcely any nourishment, and this, when the sands and heat are considered, is a wonderful exertion. But the celerity with which the Tartars carry dispatches in Turkey is most surprising. In 1818, a man carried a letter from Ali Pacha, the Vizier of Epirus, to the Grand Signior, and who travelled as he could, on foot or on horseback, must have completed more than 160 miles a day!

*Atalaya is a frequent name of villages in the Peninsula.

The following is a transcript from the officers' register at Headquarters Department of Louisiana, September 27, 1868: George A. Thurston, first lieutenant Fourth Cavalry; Samuel Ross, major Twenty-eighth Infantry, brevet colonel U. S. A.; Henry P. Ritzius, second lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry; Joseph A. Mower, colonel Thirty-ninth Infantry, brevet major-general U. S. A.; Gustave Magnitzky, second lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry, brevet captain U. S. A.; Frank L. Shoemaker, second lieutenant Fourth Cavalry; Archibald Bogle, first lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry, brevet captain U. S. A.; G. S. Grimes, first lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry; John Pope, Jr., second lieutenant Twenty-sixth Infantry; William Harper, Jr., first lieutenant Sixth Cavalry, brevet major U. S. A.; Alfred C. Girard, assistant surgeon U. S. Army.

On the arrival of a company of Kansas State troops, Company C, Tenth Cavalry, now scouting on the Solomon River, will proceed to Fort Hays, Kansas, and on its arrival be reported at Headquarters Department of the Missouri.

COMPANY K, Fifth Infantry, has been relieved from duty at the post of Fort Riley, and will proceed to Fort Hays.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

SEPT. 28.—First Assistant Engineer Nathan P. Towne, to duty on board the *Saranac*.

Second Assistant Engineer Levi T. Safford, to duty on board the *Nipic*.

Oct. 1.—Commander Henry A. Adams, Jr., to command the store ship *Guard*, on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant-Commander Henry C. Taylor; Lieutenant Henry C. White; Ensign M. R. S. McKenzie; Midshipmen John B. Robinson, Fred. E. Upton, Arthur B. Speyers and Edwin K. Moore; Boat-swain William S. Bond and Carpenter Oliver W. Griffiths, to duty on board the *Guard*, on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant-Commander Edwin T. Brower, to duty on board the *Nipic*, on the 15th inst.

Oct. 2.—Lieutenant-Commander George B. White, to duty on board the receiving ship *Vandalia*, on the 20th inst.

Master John A. Vaughan and Ensign W. J. Moore, to duty on board the receiving ship *Vandalia*.

Masters Oscar White and George E. Ide, to duty on board the receiving ship *Vermont*.

Master Benjamin Long Edes and Ensign Abiel B. Carter, to duty on board the receiving ship *Constellation*.

Ensign Louis N. Housel, to duty on board the receiving ship *New Hampshire*.

Passed Assistant Paymaster Leonard A. Fralley, to duty at the Naval Station, Mound City, Ill.

Gunnery Charles Stuart and Robert A. Williams, to duty on board the receiving ship *Independence*.

DETACHED.

SEPT. 29.—Lieutenant-Commander William H. Dana, from command of the *Huron*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander C. I. Huntington; Lieutenants George W. Pigman and H. C. Raebel; First Assistant Engineer Caleb E. Lee; Second Assistant Engineers J. Borthwick, Mason W. Mather, and F. H. Fletcher, from duty on board the *Huron*, and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Surgeon F. L. Du Bois, from duty on board the late store ship *Fredonia*, and placed on waiting orders.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Samuel F. Shaw, from duty on board the practice ship *Macedonian*, and ordered to the store ship *Onward*.

Assistant Paymaster Frank Bissell, from duty on board the *Huron*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Second Assistant Engineers George W. Roche, A. J. Kenyon, and Third Assistant Engineers James A. Deaver and C. H. Manning, from duty on board the *Dacotah*, and placed on waiting orders.

SEPT. 30.—Commander Austin Pendergrast, from command of the *Nyack*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commanders Douglas Cassel, George T. Davis and G. B. White, from duty on board the *Dacotah*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander Francis S. Brown, from duty on board the *Nyack*, and ordered to the Naval Academy.

Lieutenant-Commander Byron Wilson, from duty on board the *Saranac*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander M. L. Johnson; First Assistant Engineer James P. Sprague and Second Assistant Engineer R. B. Hine, from duty on board the late *Waterloo*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander C. W. Tracy, from duty on board the *Nyack*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander Charles E. Clark, from duty on board the late *Suwanee*, and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster L. G. Billings, from duty on board the late *Waterloo*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Paymaster William N. Watmough, from duty on board the *Onward*, and ordered to settle his accounts.

Oct. 1.—Lieutenant-Commander Edward N. Kellogg, from duty on board the *Portsmouth*, and ordered to the *Guard*, on the 15th inst.

Lieutenant Charles O'Neill, from duty on board the *Guard*, on the 15th inst., and ordered to the receiving ship *Ohio*.

Lieutenant Henry H. Goringe, from command of the *Guard*, on the 15th inst., and placed on waiting orders.

Ensign W. C. Gibson, from duty on board the *Guard*, and on the 15th inst., ordered to the *Constellation*.

Ensign E. W. Watson, from duty on board the *Guard*, on the 15th inst., and ordered to the *New Hampshire*.

Lieutenant-Commander H. Parker, Jr., and Henry W. Lyon, from duty at the Navy-yard, Boston, Mass., and ordered to duty on board the *Guard*, on the 15th inst.

Oct. 2.—Commander J. S. Skerrett, from command of the *Portsmouth*, and placed on waiting orders.

Commander J. H. Gillies, from command of the late *Waterloo*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commanders J. B. Coghlan, W. W. Hendrickson; Boat-swain Isaac T. Choate; Gunner George W. Omensetter, and Carpenter Warren Barnard, from duty on board the *Portsmouth*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander F. A. Cook, from duty on board the *Saranac*, and placed on waiting orders.

Lieutenant-Commander Louis Kempf, from duty on board the *Portsmouth*, and ordered to the receiving ship *Independence*.

Master George M. Book, and Ensign Edward T. Strong, from duty on board the *Portsmouth*, and ordered to the receiving ship *New Hampshire*.

Paymaster E. W. Dunn, from duty at Mound City, Ill., and ordered to settle his accounts.

ORDERS REVOKED.

SEPT. 28.—Second Assistant Engineer Thomas Lynch, to duty on board the *Nipic*.

Oct. 2.—Surgeon Henry C. Nelson, to duty on board the *Portsmouth*.

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

SEPT. 28.—First Assistant Engineer, Oscar C. Lewis.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

DETACHED.

SEPT. 28.—Acting Masters Thomas Stothard and Josiah A. Hamlin; Acting Ensigns Thomas W. Bell and George F. Howes, from duty on board the *Independence*.

Mates Charles L. Felch, E. H. Robinson and William H. Hall, from duty on board the *Penobscot*, and ordered to the *Independence*.

SEPT. 29.—Acting Master Lyman Welles, and Acting Ensign Arthur O'Leary, from duty on board the *Huron*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Assistant Surgeon E. S. Perkins, from duty on board the *Huron*, and placed on waiting orders.

SEPT. 30.—Acting Volunteer Lieutenant W. D. Wraim, from duty on board the *Dacotah*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Ensigns T. J. Werner and J. W. Hopkins, from duty on board the *Nyack*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Second Assistant Engineer Bryce Wilson, from duty on board the late *Waterloo*, and granted leave for discharge.

Oct. 2.—Acting Master L. B. King, from duty on board the *Nyack*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Master William Barrymore, from duty on board the receiving ship *Vermont*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Master George T. Ford, and Acting Ensigns George W. Beverly, J. A. Brannan and Norman McLeod, from duty on board the *New Hampshire*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Ensigns Andrew McLeary, John Lourie and Albert F. Ulmer, from duty on board the receiving ship *Constellation*, and granted leave for discharge.

Acting Passed Assistant Surgeon William L. Wheeler, from duty on board the *Onward*, and placed on waiting orders.

Acting Assistant Surgeon J. F. Tourtellotte, from duty on board the *Nyack*, and placed on waiting orders.

Acting Third Assistant Engineer William Holland, from duty on board the *Suwanee*, and granted leave for discharge.

MUSTERED OUT.

SEPT. 29.—Acting Ensign John F. Ferry.

Oct. 2.—Acting Masters Edward Cavendish, Alfred Weston, and Acting Ensigns John Dennett and John Braun.

Mate L. W. Poole, and Acting Third Assistant Engineer J. Wyckoff Lyon.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

The following-named Volunteer Naval officers have been honorably discharged from the service of the United States since last report:

Acting Volunteer Lieutenants J. H. Eldridge and W. W. Crowninshield, from October 4th.
Acting Masters C. F. R. Wapponhaus from September 29th, and George Edwards, from September 30th.
Mates William C. Parker, from September 27th, J. B. Rayner and M. P. Butts, from October 4th.
Acting Second Assistant Engineers A. N. Gilmore, from October 24, and S. K. Coster from October 5th.

LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending October 3, 1868:

George Pierce, supernumerary, September 24th, Naval Hospital, Chelsea.
James Doran, beneficiary, September 25th, Naval Asylum, Philadelphia.
Franklin Fox, captain of fore-castle, September 26th, U. S. ship Portsmouth.
James McLaughlin, quarter gunner, September 16th, Naval Hospital, New York.

ARMY GAZETTE.

CHANGES OF STATIONS.

The following is a list of the changes of stations of troops reported at the War Department since last report:

INFANTRY.

Company K, Third Infantry, to Fort Harker, Kansas.
Company F, Fifth Infantry, to Camp Hoffman, Kansas.
Companies B and C, Twelfth Infantry, to Montgomery, Ala.
Companies F and K, Twelfth Infantry, to Savannah, Ga.
Company I, Twelfth Infantry, to Russell Barracks, Washington, D. C.

The Fifteenth Infantry is assigned to the following posts in Texas, headquarters at Marshall, Texas; Company A, at Livingston, Texas; Company B, Clarksville, Texas; Company C, Marshall, Texas; Company D, Tyler, Texas; Company E, Palestine, Texas; Company F, Huntsville, Texas; Company G, Marshall, Texas; Company H, Jefferson, Texas; Company I, San Augustine, Texas; Company K, Bryan Station, Texas.

Company B, Seventeenth Infantry, to Burnham, Texas.
Company D, Seventeenth Infantry, to Sulphur Springs, Texas.
Company E, Seventeenth Infantry, to Austin, Texas.
Company K, Seventeenth Infantry, to Wharton, Texas.
Company B, Eighteenth Infantry, to Fort D. A. Russell, D. T.
Company F, Twentieth Infantry, to San Juan Island, W. T.
Company B, Twenty-sixth Infantry, to Woodland, Texas.
The Twenty-seventh Infantry is transferred to the Department of the Missouri, and ordered to the Kansas Pacific Railroad.
Company E, Thirty-eighth Infantry, to Fort Hays, Kansas.
Company I, Thirty-eighth Infantry, to Fort Wallace, Kansas.

CAVALRY.

Companies A and D, Second Cavalry, to Fort D. A. Russell, D. T.
Companies A, B, F, H, I, L, and M, Fifth Cavalry, to Omaha, Nebraska.
Company H, Sixth Cavalry, to Sulphur Springs, Texas.
Company B, Seventh Cavalry, rejoined at Fort Dodge, Kansas.
Company F, Seventh Cavalry, to Fort Harker, Kansas.
Company L, Seventh Cavalry, to Fort Lamed, Texas.
Company E, Eighth Cavalry, stationed at Camp Willow Grove, Arizona Territory.

ARTILLERY.

Company I, Second Artillery, to Fort Wrangell, Alaska Ter.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

E. C. G.—The Ninth Infantry was organized by act of Congress of March 3, 1855, and its officers therefore could not appear in any register of an earlier date than that.

FORTIETH INFANTRY.—We have received and read your letter of the September 14th; we think you have greatly exaggerated the condition of affairs at your post. The guard-house is not generally a pleasant or commodious place of residence, and our advice to you is to keep out of it, thereby avoiding any of the trouble which is continually breaking out among the members of Company Q. When men go out on a pass they should return at the specified time, and sufficiently sober to go to their quarters and sleep off the effects of the liquor they have imbibed.

OLD SOLDIER.—The uniform of the principal musicians of an Army band varies according to circumstances, we know of no prescribed uniform either for a drum-major or a principal musician in the Regular Army.

BATTERY F, FIFTH ARTILLERY.—If a soldier was serving out the sentence of a General Court-martial at the time of the expiration of his term of service, we cannot see how the captain of his company could do anything but give him a characterless discharge. If you prefer to have him state the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth he can doubtless be induced to accommodate you. You cannot expect to receive any pay for the time you are confined after the expiration of your enlistment.

Q. M. DEPARTMENT.—We have never seen any of the velocipedes of which you speak. The two-wheeled ones are the invention of one of the Hanlon brothers, and of course require considerable skill in balancing on the part of those who use them. The prices of these large velocipedes is between forty and fifty dollars.

SUBSCRIBER.—Contract surgeons are not commissioned officers, and it would be difficult to determine what their full dress is. We have never heard that it was customary to require contract surgeons to appear upon occasions of military ceremony.

A. J. I.—You should write to the surgeon-general of the Army or the chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery of the Navy, both of whom are in Washington, for the information you desire.

EIGHTEENTH U. S. INFANTRY.—A soldier who has been tried for military offence, and is awaiting the sentence of a General Court-martial, cannot claim to be discharged simply by reason of the expiration of the term of his enlistment. If such were the case a man could commit any military offence he chose two days before his discharge, with impunity, and if two days why not two weeks or two months? A man who enlists is amenable to military discipline until he has received his discharge, even if its receipt is delayed day or more.

J. B.—A non-commissioned officer can undoubtedly be re-instated to his original position after a reduction of six months, if the vacancy has not been filled in the meantime. You can find out the computation by inquiring of the quartermaster at your post.

CORPORAL.—Candidates for appointment to West Point must be over 17 and under 22 years of age, except they have served in the war of the rebellion, in which case they are eligible up to 24 years. The fact of your now being in the service will not make any difference if you can secure an appointment and pass the examination.

J. A. D.—If a soldier is sentenced to be confined at hard labor for

a year, his sentence should justly commence from the time of the promulgation of the proceedings of the Court in his case. And if there is any delay in transferring him to the designated place, and he is still kept in confinement, he should be credited with the time of such delay.

FIFTH CORPS.—Robert E. Lee, late General in the Confederate Army, resigned his position in the U. S. Army April 25, 1861.

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

The following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

ARMY.

OCT. 1st.

Frisbee, J. G., Captain.
Funk, Augustus, Colonel.
Hertog, Captain.
Howe, F. J., Colonel.
North, Samuel J., Colonel.
O'Kara, Jas. V., Captain.

OCT. 5th.

Babin, J., Captain.
Chalmers, Jas. R., General.
Hein, W., General.
Ireland, A., Captain.
Metcalf, F. A., Captain.

Robbins, J. V., Colonel.
Small, W. H., Captain.
Shattuck, Sergeant.
Sledge, Wm. E., Colonel.
Toothacker, John, Captain.
Turner, R. R., Captain.

OCT. 5th.

Ryan, Jas., Colonel.
Smith, W. M., Captain.
Thorndike, E. A., Captain.
Van Vorst, Jas., Major.
Ward, John, Colonel.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

INSPECTION OF THE FIRST REGIMENT.—The annual inspection of the regiments of the Third brigade commenced on Monday, October 5th, with the First Infantry, Colonel Rush C. Hawkins commanding. The inspection took place at Tompkins square, and commenced at 2½ o'clock. Brevet Colonel O. F. Wentworth, brigade-inspector, was the inspecting officer, and Brigadier-General Varian, with his full staff, was in attendance. The regiment paraded with field music only, and made rather a slim turn out, which was attributed to the fact that quite a number of the men were absent on a target excursion. If this statement is true it does not speak well for the discipline enforced in this regiment. Still the First is composed of a large percentage of actual veterans, and is really the best of the Zouave regiments.

Colonel Hawkins, ranking the inspector, reviewed the regiment at the commencement of the inspection, and was accompanied by Colonel Wentworth. The regiment marched in review in good shape, and made a creditable appearance. There is a lack of uniformity in the binding of the officers' coats, some of them being trimmed with green and some with red. As red has been adopted, officers should have conformed to the prescribed bill of dress. After the review the battalion was broken into column, and was first inspected and then mustered by Colonel Wentworth.

During the progress of the inspection, Brigadier-General Liebenau, of the Governor's staff, acting assistant inspector-general, came on the ground, and remained present until its close. At the conclusion of the inspection General Liebenau reviewed the battalion, Colonel Hawkins being in command. This last review was decidedly bungled. In the first place, after the battalion had been presented to the general, it was immediately broken into column, so that it was necessary to reform the line for the reviewing officer to pass down. In passing in review quite a number of officers neglected to salute; and at the conclusion of the ceremony the colonel faced the reviewing officer and saluted without bringing the battalion to a present. After the review by General Liebenau the regiment was marched to its armory and dismissed.

At the inspection of this regiment last year 242 were present, 230 absent—making a total of 472.

The following is the number present at the inspection on Monday: Company A, 35; Company B, 23; Company C, 36; Company D, 21; Company E, 25; Company F, 33; Company G, 21; field and staff, 6; non-commissioned staff, 5. Total, 213.

INSPECTION SEVENTH REGIMENT.—The Seventh was inspected in full fatigue, knapknaps with overcoats rolled, at Tompkins square, on Tuesday, October 6th, the ceremony commencing at half past two o'clock. Whenever the Seventh appears in public there is always a large turn-out of the friends of the members to see "ye gallant boys," and this admiring throng was out in full force on Tuesday. This is as it should be, for the Seventh is undoubtedly the best-drilled and disciplined body of citizen soldiers in the United States. Having thus plainly given our opinion of the general excellence of the Seventh, we shall not hesitate to speak freely of any little blemishes we noticed, especially as we know we are speaking to those who know whether we speak justly or not.

Brigadier-General Liebenau, acting assistant inspector-general, who was formerly adjutant of this regiment, was present at the commencement of the inspection, in full uniform, chapeau, epaulettes, and all, and acted as reviewing officer, Colonel Wentworth accompanying him. One of the chief points of excellence of the Seventh is its steadiness, for a regiment is nothing if not steady; and on this account, and the set-up of its men, it always makes a fine appearance on a review or parade. The review was gone through with in fine style, although the company officers on the left of the battalion were not exactly in line with the others. In passing in review the band made a very handsome appearance, and the number of its members wearing service chevrons was noticeable. The salutes of the officers were generally good, those of Colonel Clark, Captain George W. Smith, and Lieutenant Barrett being noticeably so. One or two of the officers scarcely turned their faces toward the reviewing officer, and one captain saluted before turning his head. The non-commissioned staff omitted to salute altogether. In forming the line after passing in review, the distance between the second and third companies in line was not well preserved. We think this was owing to the guide of the second company closing up too much the first company.

Immediately after the review the regiment was broken into column, and was first inspected and then mustered. As the inspecting officer passed down the line the commandants of Companies A and K were opposite the centre, instead of the right of their companies. We noticed, also, that one or two of the lieutenants carried their sabres with the flat instead of the edge to the front. As each company was mustered it was marched to the armory and dismissed, the colors being escorted by the fifth company in line. At the conclusion of the muster the sixth and eighth companies, with the band, made a short parade before going to the armory.

In looking over the rolls of this regiment, we noticed that Captain George W. Smith joined the regiment in 1855, and he has been present at every inspection since that time. The next in point of

length of service are Color-Sergeant Peter Braisted, Jr., who joined in 1845, and Private E. J. Hyde, who joined in 1848, both of whom have attended every inspection since those dates. At last inspection the returns show that the strength of the Seventh was 652 present, 334 absent; total, 1,016. The following is the return for the present year:

| | Present. | Absent. | Total. |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------|--------|
| Field..... | 3 | — | 3 |
| Staff..... | 2 | — | 2 |
| Non-commissioned staff..... | 7 | 1 | 8 |
| Band..... | 44 | — | 44 |
| Company A..... | 78 | 18 | 95 |
| Company B..... | 80 | 34 | 114 |
| Company C..... | 54 | 22 | 76 |
| Company D..... | 56 | 28 | 84 |
| Company E..... | 66 | 14 | 80 |
| Company F..... | 58 | 20 | 78 |
| Company G..... | 58 | 17 | 75 |
| Company H..... | 63 | 31 | 94 |
| Company I..... | 60 | 22 | 82 |
| Company J..... | 52 | 31 | 83 |
| Total..... | 678 | 241 | 919 |

INSPECTION OF THE EIGHTH REGIMENT.—On Wednesday afternoon, October 7th, at half-past two o'clock, the Eighth regiment was reviewed and inspected at Tompkins square. The regiment paraded in fatigue uniform, with white cross belts, and Colonel Wm. S. Carr was in command. After the formation of the line, the command of the regiment was turned over to Lieutenant-Colonel Scott, and Colonel Carr, accompanied by Colonel Wentworth, the brigade inspector, reviewed it. The review in line was gone through with in good style, the men standing quite steady. After the regiment was broken into column, it did not start off promptly at the command "march." The salutes of the officers were, as a general thing, not as good as they should be in such an old and well-drilled regiment as the Eighth, and the time of the marching was too fast. The first lieutenant of the Sixth Company recovered sabre almost immediately after saluting. We noticed also that there was a captain marching in rear of the Tenth Company, probably a brevet. After passing the reviewing officer, the First Company wheeled to the left too soon, and consequently, when the right wing was on the ground it had previously occupied, the left wing was in front of the line of battle. The distances were not well kept in the right wing, and a bad break was the consequence; which was not rectified as it should have been.

During the review by Colonel Carr, General Liebenau arrived on the field. The colonel then assumed command of the regiment and Brigadier-General Liebenau reviewed it. The review was much the same as the preceding one, except that the companies passed further beyond the reviewing officer before wheeling. The same bad break occurred in the right wing as before. There is some bad blunder in that wing, and he should be attended to.

When the regiment was broken into column for inspection, the drum-major took his position as one of the non-commissioned staff and consequently the band did not begin to play until the inspecting officer had passed down the entire right flank. While being thus inspected the men did not stand as steady as they should, especially those of the company on the right.

At the inspection in 1867 the return of the Eighth shows 489 present, 107 absent—597 total. The following is the return for 1868:

| | Present. | Absent. | Total. |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------|--------|
| Field and Staff..... | 7 | — | 7 |
| Non-commissioned staff..... | 4 | — | 4 |
| Band..... | 29 | 1 | 30 |
| Company A..... | 33 | 10 | 43 |
| Company B..... | 53 | 7 | 60 |
| Company C..... | 49 | 8 | 57 |
| Company D..... | 45 | 15 | 60 |
| Company E..... | 37 | — | 37 |
| Company F..... | 41 | 14 | 55 |
| Company G..... | 37 | 22 | 59 |
| Company H..... | 35 | 2 | 37 |
| Company I..... | 29 | 3 | 32 |
| Company J..... | 34 | 12 | 46 |
| Total..... | 433 | 94 | 527 |

COMPANY C, FIFTH REGIMENT.—This company, Captain P. Kneger commanding, gave the first military ball of the season at the New York Casino, Houston street, on Monday evening, October 5th. The ball was well attended, the music by the regimental band was good, and nothing occurred to mar the pleasure of the occasion. Captain Kneger and Lieutenants Strubel and Heufner were assiduous in their attentions and efforts to contribute to the enjoyment of their guests. Among those present were Colonel Meyer, Lieutenant-Colonel Hillebrandt, Major Seebach, Adjutant Smith, Captains Keim and Meyer and ex-Captain Holsworth, and Lieutenant Landmann, of the Fifth; Colonel Lux and Lieutenant Vittur, of the Eleventh; Captains O'Keefe and Marquardt, of the Second Brigade Staff; Lieutenant R. A. Sedgwick, U. S. V., and Captain Shaffer, of the Light Guard.

COMPANIES F AND K, TWELFTH REGIMENT.—Companies F and K, of the Twelfth regiment, propose to make a joint excursion to New Haven next week. They will be accompanied by the regimental band and drum corps, and expect to leave New York in the evening boat on next Tuesday evening, arriving in New Haven early Wednesday morning, where they will be received by the Second regiment Connecticut N. G. and escorted to the Tontine Hotel, which will be the headquarters of the battalion during its stay in the City of Elms. At 10 o'clock the New York companies will be formally received by the Mayor of New Haven, who, with the members of the Common Council, will review the battalion. In the afternoon there will be a joint parade of the battalion of the Twelfth, and the Second Connecticut regiment; after which Companies F and K will be exercised in battalion drill. Governor English and staff will also review the troops in the afternoon. In the evening the companies of the Twelfth will give a promenade concert at Music Hall, the proceeds to be turned over to the Treasurer of the New Haven Orphan Asylum. On Thursday they will attend the reunion of the members of the Second Connecticut N. G., which will be celebrated by a clambake and picnic at Sabine Rock. The members of the Twelfth will leave for home on Thursday evening, arriving in New York early Friday morning. Captain Milnor Imlay will command the battalion.

VETERAN ASSOCIATION, SEVENTH REGIMENT.—A meeting of the Veteran Association of the Seventh regiment was held at Delmonico's, corner of Fourteenth street and Fifth avenue, on Thursday evening, October 1st. Colonel W. R. Verniye was in the chair, and the following officers of the association were present: Major Emmons Clark, Adjutant C. B. Bostwick, Paymaster Stephen Burkhalter, Commissary G. L. Arrowsmith, Captains Loutrel, W. Farnham, E. R. Tremain, C. H. Meday, John W. Morgan, John H. Kemp, Frederick W. Herring and Thomas M. Adriance, Lieutenants Bernard, P. Van Iderstine, Louis B. Rader and James M. Wilson. Twenty-eight new members were elected. After the routine

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of business was transacted, Lieutenant Rader, on behalf of the Historical Committee, read an interesting paper on the Militia of the city, from old colonial times to the organization of the National Guard, present Seventh regiment, in 1826. Among the members present were General A. Durfee, Colonel Hull, Major Miln, Captains Van Wyck, Sterling and Miller, late U. S. Volunteers, Captains George W. Smith, George Moore Smith and R. Allison, ex-Captain P. Palmer, and Lieutenants Earle, Delamater and Ingersoll, of the regiment. This organization is in a most flourishing condition, and now numbers some 550 members.

COMPANY K, EIGHTH REGIMENT.—An election is ordered to be held in this company, on Friday evening, October 9th, to fill the vacancy caused by the desertion of First Lieutenant Sydney Lester. We are informed that this company has accepted the challenge of Company G, Eighth regiment, which we publish elsewhere.

INFORMATION WANTED.—Lieutenant Louis B. Rader, of the Veteran Corps of the Seventh, is preparing a history of the regiment from its earliest days to the present date. He will gladly receive any information which will aid him in this work, such as old rolls, lists of officers, old inspection returns, and any interesting information relative to any of the companies now comprising the regiment. Lieutenant Rader's address is 160 Pearl street, New York.

FIRST REGIMENT ARTILLERY.—Pursuant to Brigade Orders No. 5, dated September 11th, this regiment will parade, dismounted, fully uniformed, armed and equipped, on Thursday, October 15th, prox., for annual inspection and review. Regimental line will be formed on Tompkins square, at 12½ o'clock p. m.

Commandants of batteries are directed to be at the regimental armory, on Monday, October 26th, prox., at 6½ o'clock p. m., precisely, with all their battery books, papers and records, for inspection by the Brigade Inspector.

The right wing (Batteries C, G, K, H.), field, commissioned and non-commissioned staff, will assemble in fatigue uniform, at the regimental armory, on Monday, 12th October, prox. The left wing, (Batteries I, F, D, A, B.), will assemble on Tuesday, 13th October, prox., at the same place for drill. Line will be formed each evening at 7½ o'clock precisely.

The following appointment is announced, Sergeant Standard Bear-er William Richardson, (original).

SEVENTH FIRST REGIMENT.—In accordance with General Orders No. 7, (current series), headquarters First brigade Infantry, N. O. S. N. Y., this regiment will parade on Tuesday, October 13, 1868, in full fatigue, heavy marching order, for discipline, inspection, review and the annual muster. Inspection by the inspector-general will take place at the same time.

Line will be formed on Union Square, north side (which will hereafter be the regimental parade ground), right on Fourth avenue, at 5½ o'clock a. m., fifteen minutes before which time the field and staff (mounted) will report to the commandant, and the non-commissioned staff, first sergeants, band and drum corps, to the adjutant on the parade ground. First sergeants in bringing their companies on the parade ground are directed always to align them in rear of the line, and as near as possible opposite their position in line. The members will assemble at their respective company quarters at 7½ a. m., provided with one day's rations.

Appointments. The following have been appointed company quartermaster sergeants: Noah R. Allen, Company B; William F. Bogert, Company C; John A. Kennedy, Company D; William Wheeler, Company E; Robert F. Grey, Company G; J. W. Richardson, Company I.

Discharged. Private Charles Witpin, Company A, expiration of service; Private E. Cole, Company A, expiration of service; Private Mason Meyers, Company C, expiration of service.

COMPANY C, SEVENTH REGIMENT.—At the regular meeting of this company held October 2d, Sergeant Waldo Sprague, brevet captain N. G. S. N. Y., offered a handsome gold medal and clasp to be presented to that member of the company who should at the close of the season be pronounced "the best soldier" in the company by its officers.

SPRINKLING THE STREETS.—We noticed upon the occasion of the inspection of the Seventh regiment on Tuesday that Eighth street was perfectly dry and in good condition for marching. This was owing to the petition relative to sprinkling the streets which was recently handed to Superintendent Kennedy.

COMPANY F, EIGHTH REGIMENT.—This company, Captain Wm. H. McIntire, paraded in citizen's dress on Friday, October 2d, for the purpose of attending the funeral of Mr. F. Van Dooren, an honorary member of the company. The funeral of the deceased took place in Jersey City.

THIRD REGIMENT.—At a regular meeting of the Board of Officers, of the Third regiment of Infantry, the following officers were expelled from the board for non-payment of dues and fines: Major George W. Hamilton, Lieutenant Patrick Carroll, Lieutenant F. Osterman, Lieutenant James H. Hamm, Lieutenant J. G. Kinle.

SERENADE TO CAPTAIN EASTON.—As it was understood by the members of the Ninth Company of the Seventh that their commandant, Captain C. A. Easton, who is the senior captain of the regiment, contemplated tendering his resignation, they determined to surround him in a body and request him to reconsider his determination. In order to give greater eclat to the occasion the members of the Fourth and Seventh Companies were invited to join with the Ninth, and the services of the regimental band were secured. Accordingly a battalion of about 150 men, under command of Lieutenant E. G. Arthur, of the Ninth Company, formed at the armory at 8 o'clock, and preceded by the band, marched to the Staten Island ferry, where they took the 9 o'clock boat. Captain Geo. Moore Smith, Captain Wm. H. Kipp and Lieutenant Edward Earle acted as the staff of the commanding officer. The battalion after arriving at Stapleton marched some two miles to the residence of Captain Easton, where it was formed in a semi-circular line; after which several selections were played by the band.

Captain Easton shortly made his appearance, and upon the conclusion of the serenade Private Thomas M. Wheeler, on behalf of the company, presented him with a series of resolutions requesting him to continue in his position as its captain. In reply to the resolutions Captain Easton signified his consent to remain with the company. The officers were subsequently entertained by the capt in, who was entirely unprepared for the appearance of such a numerous delegation. The battalion returned to the boat in horse cars, and left Staten Island at a quarter past twelve. Refreshments had been prepared by the Ninth Company, and were discussed upon the return trip of the boat. The battalion marched from the ferry to the armory through Broadway, where its appearance at such an hour excited considerable astonishment among those who witnessed it. The battalion reached the armory at 2½ a. m.

TWENTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—Second Lieutenant Henry S. Manning, of Company C, has been detailed as acting adjutant of this reg-

iment. Frederic A. Penney has been appointed hospital steward. This regiment will be inspected at the State arsenal, Portland avenue, on the evening of October 26th. The Twenty-third will parade for purposes of drill, at Prospect Park, on Thursday, October 15th. Colonel Ward, commanding this regiment, has issued an order urging upon the members the importance of providing themselves with the full dress uniform in time for the annual concert in November.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—The time allowed the members of this regiment to provide themselves with the full dress uniform recently adopted having expired on last Wednesday an inspection of the regiment was ordered at the State Arsenal, Thirty-fifth street on Thursday evening, October 1st. As this was the first appearance of the regiment, as such, in its new uniform, quite a large number of spectators were in attendance to witness the military display. Lieutenant-Colonel Harry Rockefeller was in command, and nearly three hundred men were in line at the formation.

The battalion made an exceedingly fine appearance, the white epaulets and cross belts setting off the blue and gilt of the uniform to fine advantage. It will be remembered that the present full dress of this regiment consists of a dark blue dress coat, with light blue facings, three rows of buttons on the breast, and a slashing of gilt on the sleeves and coat tails; light blue pants; low shako, with a white fountain plume, and white worsted epaulets and white cross-belts. There were many present, who claimed that the uniform of the Seventy-first is the handsomest of those recently adopted by the National Guard. Although there may be differences of opinion as to this point, there is no disputing the taste which has been displayed in getting the present full dress of the American Guard.

Colonel Rockefeller exercised the command in a few battalion movements, which were very well executed; after which the regiment was thoroughly inspected by its commanding officer. The display and exercises of the evening were throughout highly gratifying to the friends of the regiment, as well as creditable to its officers and members.

RECRUITING IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The recent publication from the Seventh regiment Manual which appeared in the JOURNAL of last week should be carefully considered by every one interested in the National Guard. That there is "great apathy" among the young men of the city in regard to enlistments, and that, from the expiration of the terms of service of those who joined during 1861 and 1862, the various regiments are sadly in need of recruits to keep up their ranks to an approximation of their former strength, are facts that cannot be contradicted, and are of vital importance to the whole State, which looks upon its Militia as its right arm in time of trouble. A little reflection will show that these assertions are not exaggerated. The annual wastage alone in a regiment from death, removal, etc., must amount to twenty per cent. of its strength, and when, in addition, the great number of '61 men are considered, it will be seen that, unless something is done to stimulate recruiting, the National Guard will soon present a very slim appearance. The question then arises, What is the reason for this state of affairs? Admitting that the close of the war has somewhat lessened the general interest of the public in military matters, yet that no small interest still exists appears by the space given to "Militia items" by the newspapers, and the crowds which attend the different parades and entertainments given by the different regiments—certainly the public take a greater interest in the National Guard than they did before the war, when recruiting was brisk enough, so the evil cannot be ascribed to this cause. It is not for military reasons, for the Militia at present is commanded by better officers, and is under better discipline than at any previous period. It is not the expense, for it has its armories provided and furnished by the city, and in some cases uniforms are obtained from the State, all of which the men had formerly to pay for, and yet recruiting is slow. The real reason lies beyond all these surface matters, and may be said to be mainly, if not entirely, the length of the term of service. Seven years is a very long time, and young men, however willing to enlist, draw back when called upon to bind themselves irrevocably for such a period. In old times, although the term was the same, resignations were accepted in the discretion of the different companies, (generally meaning wherever offered), but now-a-days "seven years" means "seven full years of active duty" and nothing less.

Now the best class of men do not care so much for their money as for their time. They are willing enough to equip themselves at their own expense, and to devote a certain period, say from three to five years to military matters, but they know that after that period, as they settle down in life, their business and family duties will generally prevent them from attending to military affairs, even if their interest in them has not been destroyed; and they therefore decline to enlist.

That these ideas are correct cannot be denied. Every captain knows how many there are in a company who, after serving five years, begin to lose their interest, neglect drills, and would do almost anything to obtain a discharge, and in many cases becoming disgusted to find themselves "fixed" for the full term of service, become permanent forebears in the company, oftentimes more trouble than they are worth.

It is therefore submitted that the best if not the only method of obtaining recruits, is an amendment of the law reducing the term of service from seven to five years, to such as may hereafter enlist (for of course a simple reduction applicable to the present members would only aggravate the evil), or else authorizing discharges to be given in the captain's discretion, after serving that length of time upon furnishing a substitute acceptable to the members of the company, or upon showing actual inability to perform duty.

NATIONAL GUARD.

WEST POINT NOTES.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: While witnessing a battalion drill of the corps of cadets recently, it occurred to me that it might interest some of the officers of the National Guard to have some of the peculiarities of the drill of the cadets noted and the West Point authority, on points unexplained by the Tactics, given.

I. The battalion was turned over to the colonel by the adjutant at close order, the command "Guides post," being given from the right of the line and "carry arms; present arms," from a point midway between the colonel and the line.

II. Guides marking the alignment always stood at carry.

III. In coming to the ready, with breech-loaders, the muzzles were elevated, just as with muzzle-loaders.

IV. The position of sergeants under arms is not defined in the drill book and great diversity exists in the National Guard as to this point. At West Point, sergeants, whether guides or file-closers, do

not execute any movements of the manual with the men, generally speaking. They execute the present, but only when the officers salute; fix and unfix bayonets, order arms, inspection arms and the carry from either of the above. On the march in column, the sergeants assume the same position of arms as the men except the guide on the directing flank who marches at a carry. For instance suppose a column by companies at a halt and the commands to be 1. Right shoulder shift arms. 2. Column forward, guide left. 3. March. At the first command the sergeants remain at a carry. At the second command, all the sergeants except the left guide execute the right shoulder shift. If the colonel should change the guide by the command "guide right," the right guide would carry arms and the left guide would bring his to the right shoulder. If, in changing direction, the captains successively shift the guide, the guide who temporarily directs comes to the carry, but the other guide remains in that position. In column of fours, the first sergeants and the sergeant on the left of the battalion carry arms. In marching in line, all the sergeants, even the general guides, take the same position of arms as the battalion.

IV. Companies were dismissed as follows: while marching in column of fours, on arriving near the company quarters the command was given; "trail arms; break ranks, march."

What a pity that our book of tactics is not so explicit as not to leave the smallest room for difference in these little matters.

EUGARFS.

CHANGES IN THE NATIONAL GUARD.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS S. N. Y.,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Oct. 5, 1868.

The following-named officers have been commissioned by the Commander-in-Chief in the National Guard, S. N. Y., during the week ending October 3d:

NINTH BRIGADE.

W. D. Woodhull, engineer, with rank from September 22d, vice James McKown, resigned.

TENTH INFANTRY.

Daniel S. Benton, lieutenant-colonel, with rank from September 11th, vice George W. Warren, resigned.

John Burn, major, with rank from September 11th, vice D. S. Benton, promoted.

William A. Hamilton, captain, with rank from September 10th, vice A. C. Judson, resigned.

Frederick Beschke, first lieutenant, with rank from September 14th, vice A. J. McAvoy, cashiered.

Geo. W. Walker, first lieutenant, with rank from September 15th, vice D. Hunter, dismissed.

Lucien Barnes, second lieutenant, with rank from September 10th, vice H. M. Watson, resigned.

J. A. Brown, second lieutenant, with rank from September 16th, vice Geo. W. Walker, promoted.

TWENTIETH INFANTRY.

Walter A. Van Rensselaer, colonel, with rank from January 1st, vice J. D. Hardenburgh, removed from district.

Patrick J. Flynn, lieutenant-colonel, with rank from January 1st, vice W. A. Van Rensselaer, promoted.

M. P. Schoonmaker, major, with rank from January 1st, vice Martin Snyder, removed from district.

TWENTY-FIRST INFANTRY.

Geo. Williams, adjutant, with rank from May 1st, vice James Smith, promoted Colonel.

THIRTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.

Oran G. Otis, commissary of subsistence, with rank from September 17th, vice Henry D. Rich, resigned.

SQUADRON WASHINGTON GREYS CAVALRY.

Augustus V. Searing, second lieutenant, with rank from August 5th, vice Henry R. Coats, appointed adjutant.

RESIGNATIONS.

The following resignations have been accepted

FORTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY.

Captain C. C. Barnes, September 30th.

FIFTY-FIRST INFANTRY.

Captain Charles Simon, September 30th.
Second Lieutenant Henry Brown, September 30th.

FIFTY-FOURTH INFANTRY.

First Lieutenant John O. Kane, September 30th.

A CHALLENGE.

ARMORY, COMPANY G, EIGHTH REGIMENT N. G. S. N. Y.,
New York, October 5, 1868.

The undersigned, on behalf of this command, hereby challenges Company K, Eighth regiment N. G. S. N. Y., to a friendly competitive drill in Upton's tactics, school of the soldier and company. The same to take place in the month of March, 1869. Number of men, and all other necessary arrangements to be determined upon hereafter mutually agreeable to both parties. Should Company K decline accepting this challenge, then the same is open to any company in the regiment.

WM. H. HEATHCOTE,
Captain Company G, Eighth regiment N. G. S. N. Y.

INSPECTION OF THE FOURTH BRIGADE.

HEADQUARTERS FOURTH BRIGADE, FIRST DIVISION,
N. G. S. N. Y., NEW YORK, Oct. 1, 1868.

General Orders No. 9.

The several regiments of this command will parade, in full marching order, for review and inspection, on Tompkins square, as follows: Fourth regiment Infantry, 2½ o'clock p. m., October 26, 1868; Eleventh regiment Infantry, 2½ o'clock p. m., October 27, 1868; Twenty-second regiment Infantry, 2½ o'clock p. m., October 28, 1868; Sixty-ninth regiment Infantry, 3½ o'clock p. m., October 28, 1868; Seventy-ninth regiment of Infantry, 3½ o'clock p. m., October 28, 1868.

Special attention is called to General Orders No. 21, current series, from General Headquarters, a copy of which has been sent, through regimental headquarters, to the commandant of each company.

The brigade staff will parade for inspection on the 28th inst. The several members thereof will report to the chief of staff, at brigade headquarters, at 2 o'clock p. m., mounted, and in full uniform.

By order of Brigadier-General Lloyd Aspinwall.

F. C. BROWN, Assistant Adjutant-General.
Official: GEORGE W. GILLESPIE, Captain and Aide-de-Camp.

THE Lancaster 9 inch rifled muzzle-loader 12-ton gun, Fraser's construction, has completed in competition with a similar gun rifled on the Woolwich system, 600 rounds of its first proof test fired without wads, namely, 400 rounds with 30 pound charges and 250 pound solid cylinders, and 200 rounds with 43 pound charges and 250 pound solid cylinders, equal to the enormous amount of 150,000 pounds of iron, and 17,600 pounds or 179 barrels of powder.

A COMPANY of soldiers accompanies the railway trains in Southern Italy to protect them from the brigands, who a short time since seized a station master, brought a train to a stand by false signals, and were only prevented from plundering it by the accidental appearance of some Zouaves.

THE adoption of the Winchester repeating gun by the Federal council of Switzerland is a very flattering endorsement of the advantages of repeating arms in general, and of the particular merits of the gun adopted. A board of five colonels and one lieutenant-colonel was appointed for the purpose of selecting from the many systems of breech-loaders one which was suited for the use of the sharpshooters and infantry of the Federal army. The result of this examination was the choice of the Winchester repeater, which has accordingly been adopted for the use of the sharpshooters, as well as the infantry. The Winchester is but a modification of the Henry rifle, from which it chiefly differs in the manner of supply cartridges. In the Henry rifle, the spiral spring of the magazine was partially visible, but in the Winchester it is entirely concealed, the cartridges being introduced into the magazine from an orifice in the breech of the gun. The ammunition used is the metallic central fire cartridge which is exploded by a rod or breech pin which is driven forward by the falling of the hammer. We do not, however, now propose to give an extended description of the Winchester, as most of our readers are perfectly familiar with the Henry rifle, which is its prototype. It is sufficient to say that the Henry rifle has found much favor with our Western hunters, and that the present modification is a decided improvement upon a deservedly popular weapon. As we have said, the adoption of the Winchester for the Swiss army is its best endorsement, as the sharpshooters of that little republic are thoroughly acquainted with the use of firearms, and are not likely to endorse any but a superior weapon.

It is hardly necessary to commend to the Army and Navy the house of Messrs. Pollak & Son. In spite of Mr. Parton's blast against tobacco, men will smoke, and soldiers and sailors especially, count the weed one of their choicest luxuries. Cigars are the extravagances of the rich, in these days of high duties, and pipes must therefore be fallen back upon by those of us whose income tax has not got up to the ten per cent. figure. And if we will smoke, and must have pipes, we know of no better men to buy them of than Messrs. Pollak & Son.

By a new patent process recently introduced to the public, the parts of forks and spoons most subjected to wear are "triple plated" with silver, thus rendering them, it is claimed, three times more durable than the ordinary extra plate. Messrs. Collamore & Co., a reliable house in this city, have adopted this style of plating for their silver-plated ware, and desire to call the attention of Army and Navy Messrs to this economical invention. Their card will be found in our advertising columns.

GOOD ADVICE.—Let our possessions be what they may—marble palaces, broad lands, magnificent plate, or caskets of "precious stones"—they all sink in the balance against Heaven's great boon, **HEALTH**, and they cannot be enjoyed without it. And yet how little it is valued, and how carelessly preserved. The laws of nature cannot be violated with impunity. Night revelry, luxurious living, irregularity of meals, and a disordered appetite, will gradually destroy the power and activity of the stomach. How many ladies and gentlemen eat and drink disease at late suppers, and arise in the morning with headache, loss of appetite, feeling languid and unrefreshed. There can be no medical remedy that will turn lead into food, or poisoned drinks into nutriment, but medical science can assist nature, supply exhausted fluids, and to a great extent correct the effects of disease. In all cases such as the above, we recommend **PLANTATION BITTERS**. You will find them just the thing—at the same time a most delicious tonic and appetizer.

MAGNOLIA WATER.—Superior to the best imported German Cologne, and sold at half the price.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

MARRIED.

ELDER—GARLAND.—In Henderson, Ky., Wednesday, September 10th, at the house of the bride's father, by the Rev. D. H. Deacon, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel SAMUEL S. ELDER, First U. S. Artillery, and Miss E. M., daughter of Dr. Richard Garland. No cards.

LLOYD—SCOTT.—On the 1st inst., by the Rev. John Hall, D. D., First Lieutenant THOMAS J. LLOYD, U. S. Army, to Miss EMMA W. SCOTT, of Trenton, N. J.

WARREN—HOLLINGSWORTH.—In Milton, Mass., on the 1st inst., by Rev. Dr. John H. Morrison, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel LEWIS H. WARREN, U. S. A., of Charlestown, to Miss JENNIE MARIA, daughter of Amor Hollingsworth, Esq.

ROCKWELL—HOBBS.—On the 29th ult., at the Church of the Epiphany, Washington, D. C., by the Rev. C. H. Hall, D. D., and the Rev. Reeve Hobbs, CHAS. F. ROCKWELL, U. S. Army, to ELLEN G., daughter of the late Hon. S. R. Hobbs, of Washington, D. C.

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GEORGE F. SNIFFEN, Secretary.

ERASTUS LYMAN, President.

DIED.

LULL.—At Norwich, Vt., September 21st, aged 27 years, ELIZABETH F., wife of Lieutenant-Commander Edward P. Lull, U. S. Navy, and eldest daughter of Brevet Brigadier-General Henry S. Burton, Colonel Fifth U. S. Artillery.

MACOMBER.—At Camp Bowie, A. T., September 15th, by reason of an overdose of morphine administered by accident, GEORGE, only son of First Lieutenant George Macomber, Thirty-Second U. S. Infantry.

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A FIRST LIEUTENANT OF INFANTRY, serving in the South-west, would like to transfer with a First Lieutenant of Cavalry. Address INFANTRY, care Army and Navy Journal, New York City.

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It is well known that a long bond always commands a much higher price than a short one. It is safe to assume that, during the next thirty years, the rate of interest in the United States will decline, as it has done in Europe, and we have a right to expect that such six per cent. securities as these will be held at as high a premium as those of this Government, which, in 1857, were bought in at from 20 to 25 per cent. above par. The export demand alone may produce this result, and as the issue of a private corporation, they are beyond the reach of political action.

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JOHN J. CISCO, Treasurer, N. Y.

SEPTEMBER 14 1868.

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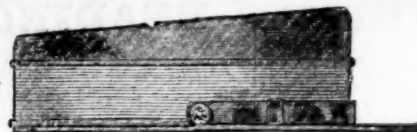
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